HANA TO YUME COMICS

OTOGI MO YOU AYA NI SHIKI

Book 1

KYOKO HIKAWA

OTOGI MO YOU AYA NI SHIKI [1]

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This is a work of fiction. All characters, organizations and events mentioned do not exist

IVYSCAN
IVYSCAN.KAKYOKU.ORG

OTOGI MO YOU AYA NI SHIKI

~ Beginning ~

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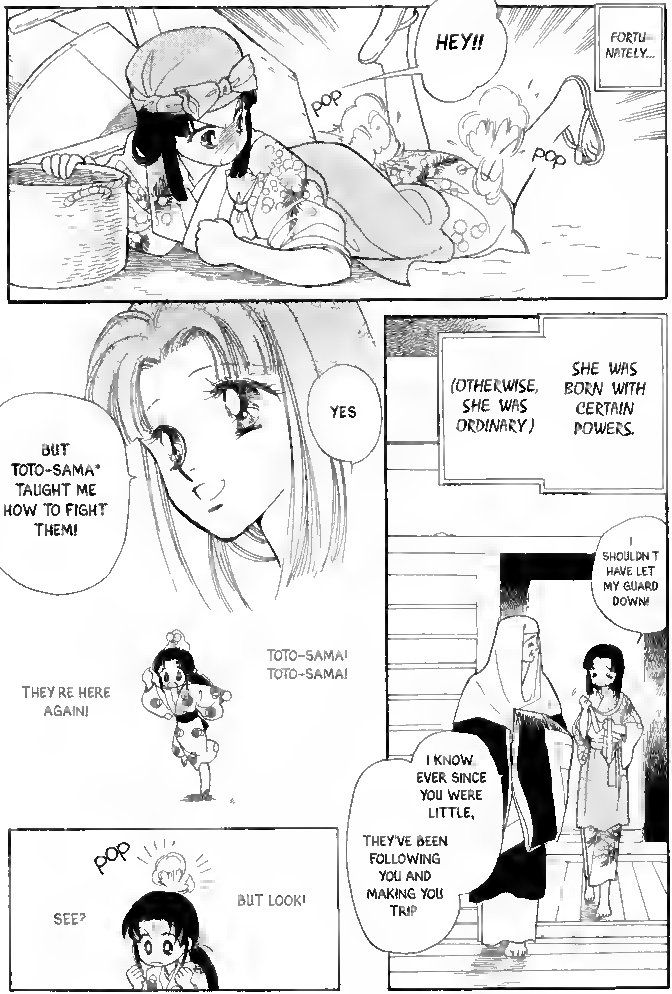
ONCE UPON A TIME...
THERE LIVED A GIRL.
SUZU!
SUZU!
CAN YOU DELIVER SOMETHING TO SISTER MYOEN FOR ME?
SURE, ANJU-SAMA!

OH!
AH!
AN ORDINARY GIRL. LEADING AN ORDINARY LIFE.
EXCEPT...
AIYA!
WOBBLE
WOBBLE
SHE WAS A BIT OF A KLUTZ.
APPARENTLY, SHE ATTRACTED SPIRITS...
AHHH!
THUD
CLATTER
bang
SHE FELL FREQUENTLY
NOT AGAIN.
PURR
GOO
ALL THE TIME


HEY!!
FORTUNATELY...
POP
POP
SHE WAS BORN WITH CERTAIN POWERS.
(OTHERWISE, SHE WAS ORDINARY)
I SHOULDN'T HAVE LET MY GUARD DOWN!
I KNOW. EVER SINCE YOU WERE LITTLE,
THEY'VE BEEN FOLLOWING YOU AND MAKING YOU TRIP
YES
BUT TOTO-SAMA* TAUGHT ME HOW TO FIGHT THEM!
TOTO-SAMA! TOTO-SAMA!
THEY'RE HERE AGAIN!
POP
SEE?
BUT LOOK!

* Father

I CAN FIGHT THEM OFF ALL BY MYSELF!
Pat

GOOD WORK, SUZU!
SO, YOU WANT ME TO RETURN THE BOOK YOU BORROWED?

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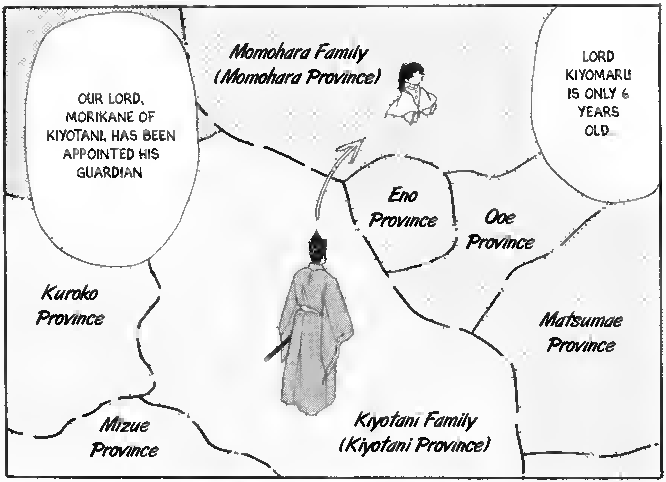
OH, SUZU!
I'LL SET OFF NOW!
YOU'RE IN GOOD HEALTH, I HOPE
LORD SOEMON.
BE CAREFUL THEN.
DO YOU HAVE THE FLUTE WITH YOU?
YES, IT'S ALWAYS WITH ME
I HAVE TO RUN SOME ERRANDS

IT'S A KEEP-SAKE...
FROM TOTO-SAMA
IT'S BEEN 10 YEARS
BACK THEN, SUZU WAS ONLY THIS BIG
YES. IT WAS WHEN THE COUNTRY...
WAS BEING VICIOUSLY ATTACKED BY MONSTERS

EVEN NOW, I CAN STILL RECALL IT CLEARLY.
ALL BECAUSE OF SHINKURO.
LIFE HAS BEEN PEACEFUL SINCE THEN.
THE SUN WAS JUST SETTING
WHEN THE YOUNG SAMURAI ARRIVED BACK HERE...
WITH A LITTLE GIRL SOUND ASLEEP ON HIS BACK.
THAT WAS THE DAY THEY FIRST MET

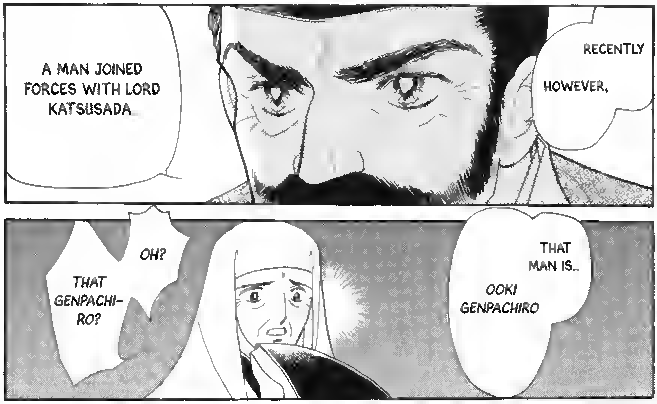
SUZU WOULDN'T BE SO SAD NOW
IF IT HAD NEVER HAPPENED
HAVE YOU HEARD?
LORD KATSUMORI OF MOMOHARA PASSED AWAY LAST MONTH.
BY THE WAY,
SISTER SHOZEN
WHO WILL BECOME THE SHUGODAI* AND TAKE CONTROL MOMOHARA?
OH!

*Shugodai = official who acts in place of a shugo (ruler of a province in feudal Japan)


Momohara Family
(Momohara Province)
OUR LORD, MORIKANE OF KIYOTANI, HAS BEEN APPOINTED HIS GUARDIAN
LORD KIYOMARU IS ONLY 6 YEARS OLD
Eno Province
Ooe Province
Kuroko Province
Matsumae Province
Mizue Province
Kiyotani Family
(Kiyotani Province)

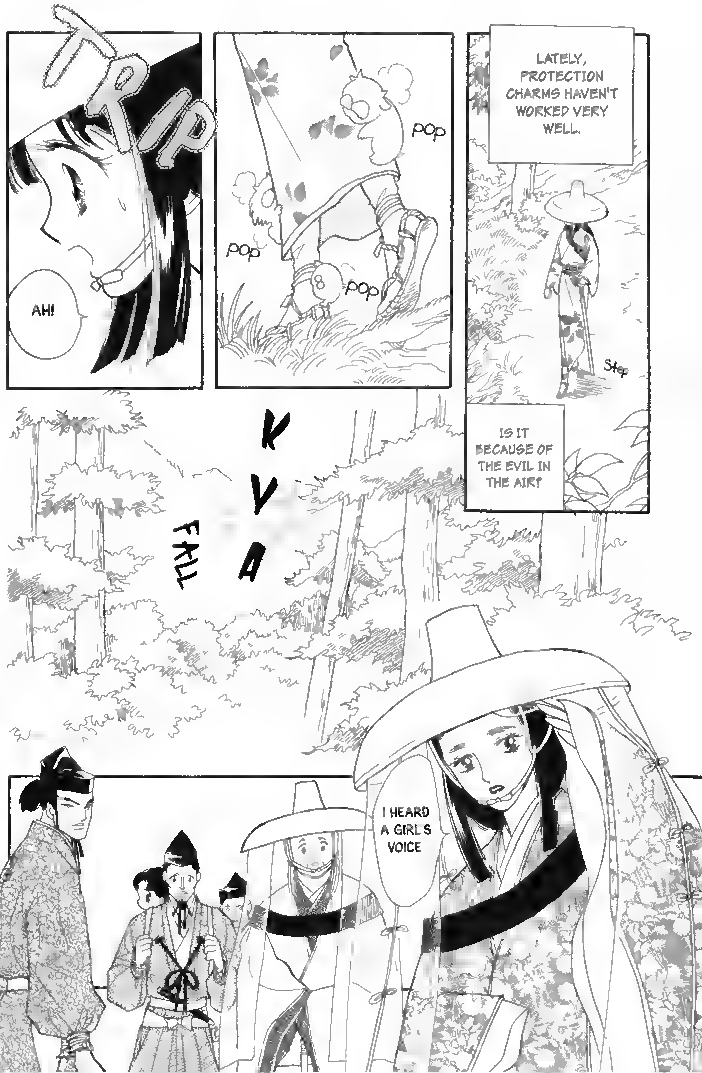
ACTUALLY, HE'S HIS HALF-BROTHER—
IS 26 YEARS OLD, AND—
BUT—
LORD KATSUMORI'S BROTHER, KATSUSADA—
BUT HE DOESN'T HAVE MANY SUPPORTERS
THAT'S THE RUMOR.
THERE'S GOING TO BE A STRUGGLE OVER THE SUCCESSION?

IVYSCAN
IVYSCAN KINYOKU ORG



THEY FOUGHT EACH OTHER IN THE LAST BATTLE
HOW IS THAT POSSIBLE?
GENPACHIRO WAS DEFEATED BY SHINKURO!
BUT NO ONE ACTUALLY SAW IT
THAT'S ALL WE KNOW.
AND GENPACHIRO DISAPPEARED, ALONG WITH HIS MONSTERS
SHINKURO NEVER RETURNED

I'M WORRIED
IF GENPACHIRO HAS REALLY RESURFACED
rustle
THERE'S A DISTURBANCE IN THE ATMOSPHERE
I FEEL A GROWING EVIL


TRIP
AH!
POP
POP
POP
POP
LATELY, PROTECTION CHARMS HAVEN'T WORKED VERY WELL.
Step
IS IT BECAUSE OF THE EVIL IN THE AIR?
KVA
FALL
I HEARD A GIRL S VOICE

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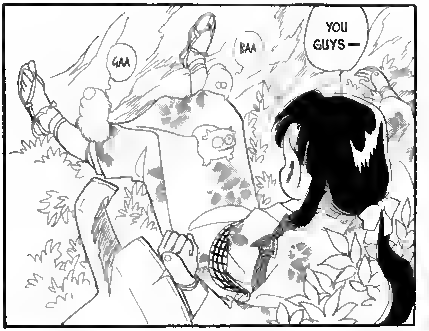
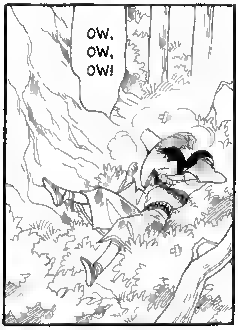
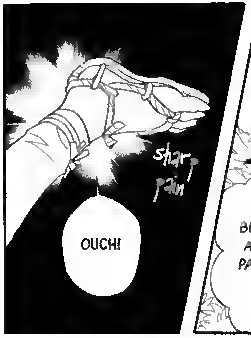
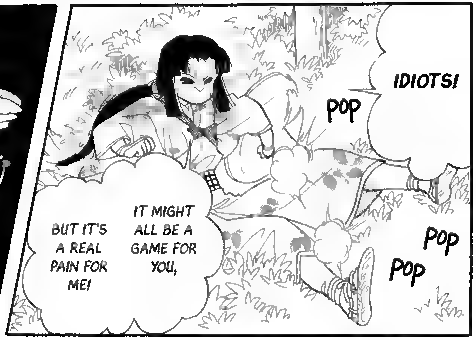
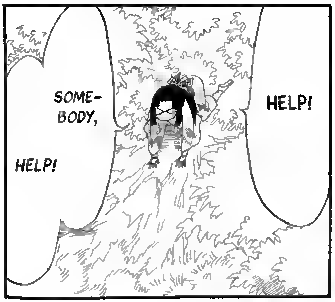




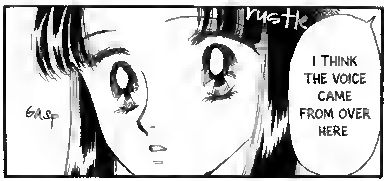


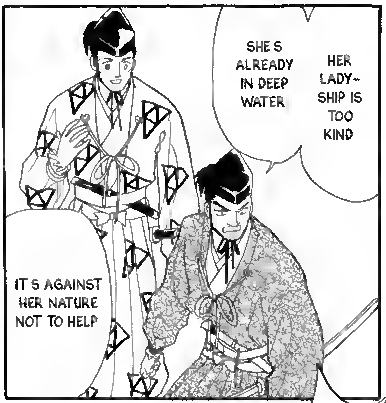


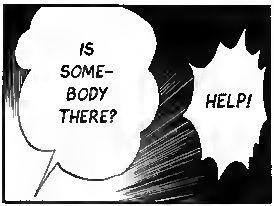


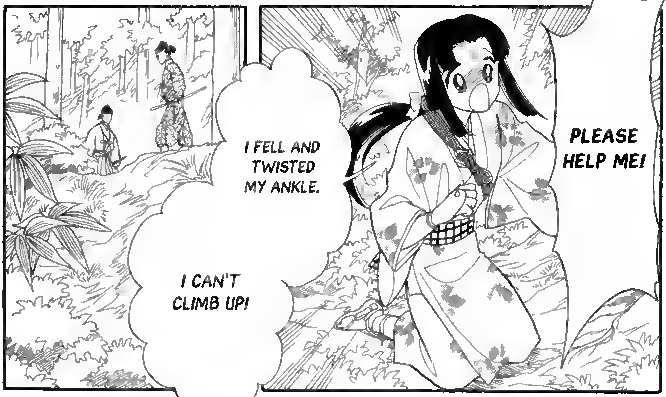
—ON! I SEE YOUR POWER YET
YOU—
HOW SHOULD I PUT THIS?
YOUR POWER COULD BE VERY STRONG, SO IF YOU—
TOTO-SAMA WOULD HAVE USED A GUARDIAN SPELL OR SOMETHING
WHAT TO DO?
LISTEN, SUZU—
I'M DEEP IN THE MOUNTAIN
NO ONE WILL FIND ME
YOU MIGHT PUT YOUR-SELF IN DANGER
WHAT I MEAN IS, IF YOU SUMMON SOMETHING YOU CAN'T CONTROL—
TOTO-SAMA

I RESPECT HER FOR THAT
YOU DON'T UNDER-STAND!
WE DON'T HAVE TIME WE SHOULD—


I THINK THE VOICE CAME FROM OVER HERE


SHE'S ALREADY IN DEEP WATER
HER LADY-SHIP IS TOO KIND
IT'S AGAINST HER NATURE NOT TO HELP

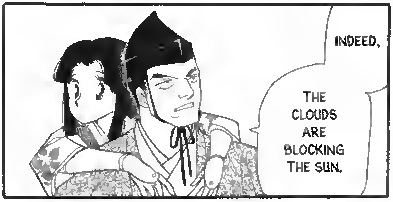

IS SOME-BODY THERE?
HELP!

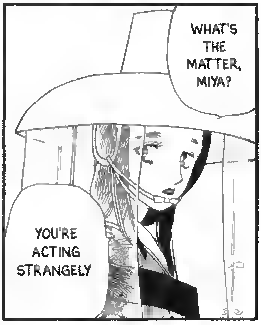

I FELL AND TWISTED MY ANKLE.
I CAN'T CLIMB UP!
PLEASE HELP ME!

OH!
YOU'RE GOING TO NAO TEMPLE?
YES!
TH-THANK YOU
FOR HELPING ME
SO ARE WE. LET'S BRING HER ALONG.
SHE CAN'T WALK WITH HER ANKLE LIKE THAT

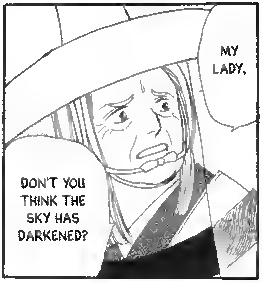
C'MON!
giggle
...
ER... YES.
LET'S GO.
PHEW, I'M SAVED
I WAS REALLY SCARED
BUT
DON T THANK ME
I'M JUST FOLLOWING ORDERS.
SORRY. I MUST BE HEAVY
I'M REALLY FORTUNATE
MY SAVIORS SEEM TO BE NOBLES WHICH PROVINCE ARE THEY FROM?
giggle!
THE YOUNG MASTER?
SO CUTE!
I'm definitely a burden.
THE GUARDS SEEM UPSET

hesitate


INDEED,
THE CLOUDS ARE BLOCKING THE SUN.

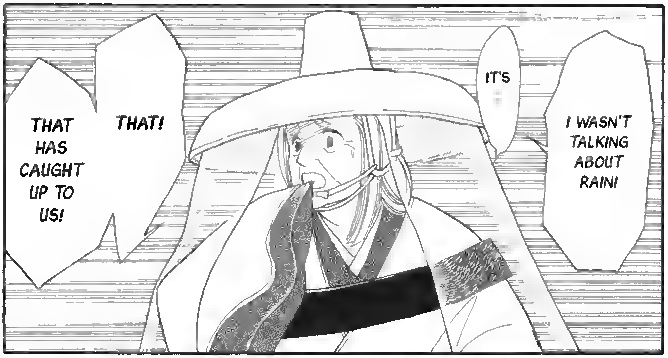

WHAT'S THE MATTER, MIYA?
YOU'RE ACTING STRANGELY

WAIT!
IF IT RAINS, IT RAINS.
IT'S ALL RIGHT

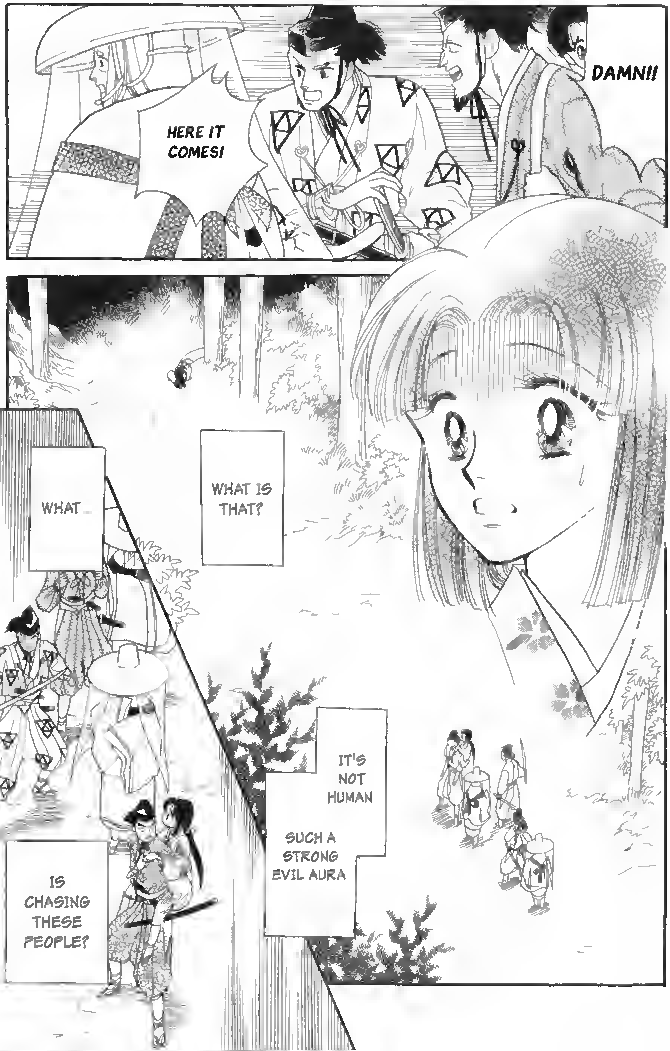

MY LADY,
DON'T YOU THINK THE SKY HAS DARKENED?

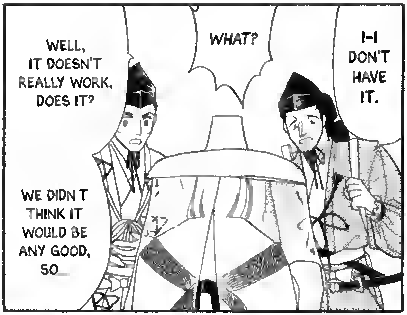
IVYSCAN
IVYSCAN KAKYOKU DAO

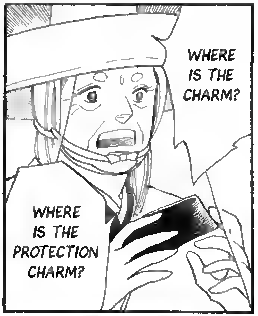
THAT'S RIGHT
JUST ONE HOUR AWAY...
WE'LL BE THERE SOON.
THE TEMPLE IS ONLY AN HOUR AWAY BY FOOT.
WHAT IS THIS STRANGE ENERGY CATCHING UP TO US?

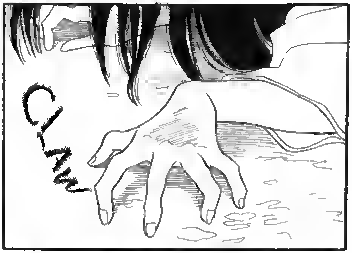


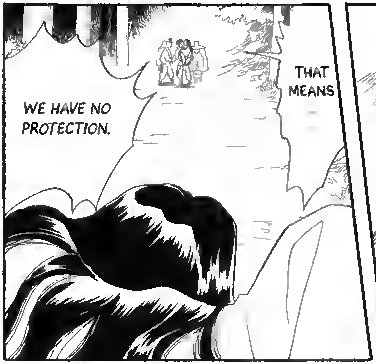
WHAT'S THAT?
THESE PEOPLE ARE...
WE WERE ABLE TO ESCAPE FROM THE MAIN HOUSE WITHOUT BEING NOTICED
BUT HOW?
reach...
clasp
KIYO-MARU!!
slide


HERE IT COMES!
DAMN!!
WHAT
WHAT IS THAT?
IT'S NOT HUMAN
SUCH A STRONG EVIL AURA
IS CHASING THESE PEOPLE?


WELL, IT DOESN'T REALLY WORK, DOES IT?
WE DIDN'T THINK IT WOULD BE ANY GOOD, SO...
WHAT?
I-I DON'T HAVE IT.


WHERE IS THE CHARM?
WHERE IS THE PROTECTION CHARM?


CLAW


WE HAVE NO PROTECTION.
THAT MEANS

slither

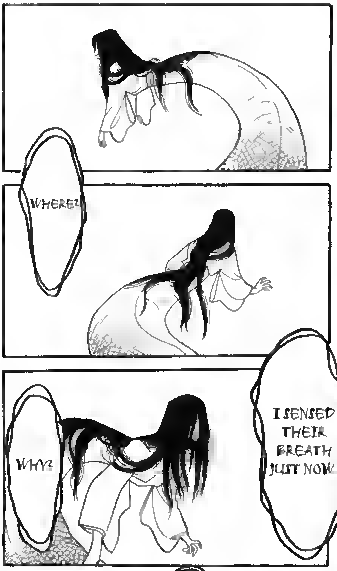
UNG!
DROP
AHH!
choke
WAIT!
WHOA!
WELL... I'VE NEVER USED IT BEFORE.
I-I CAN HELP!
I'M GOING TO TRY A SPELL TO MAKE US INVISIBLE
wobble
I ONLY STUDIED THE SPELL
YOU CAN DO THAT?
HUH?

RIN
BYOU
ZEN!*
TOU
ZAI
SHA
RETSU
JIN
KAI
I'M THE ONLY PROTECTION THEY HAVE!
I'LL DO MY BEST!
clap
*Warriors, come forth and assume the formation!

* Buddhist chanting

LORD MARISHI BUDDHA,
PLEASE PROTECT US
CURSE YOU!
CURSE YOU!
crawl
crawl
CURSE YOU ALL!
crawl

RISE
GASP!
SWISH



IVYSCAN
IVYSCAN.KAKYOKU.ORG

WHERE!
CURSE YOU!
WHERE?
CURSE YOU!!
I DO NOT SEE THEM.
I DO NOT SEE THEM!
AH!
OUCH!
stamp
pain
WHERE?
Y-YOUR SPELL WORKED?
IF...
THAT KEEPS MOVING FORWARD

THERE!
NO!
MY ANKLE
I'M SORRY!
CAN'T BE HELPED!
DAMN MONSTER!

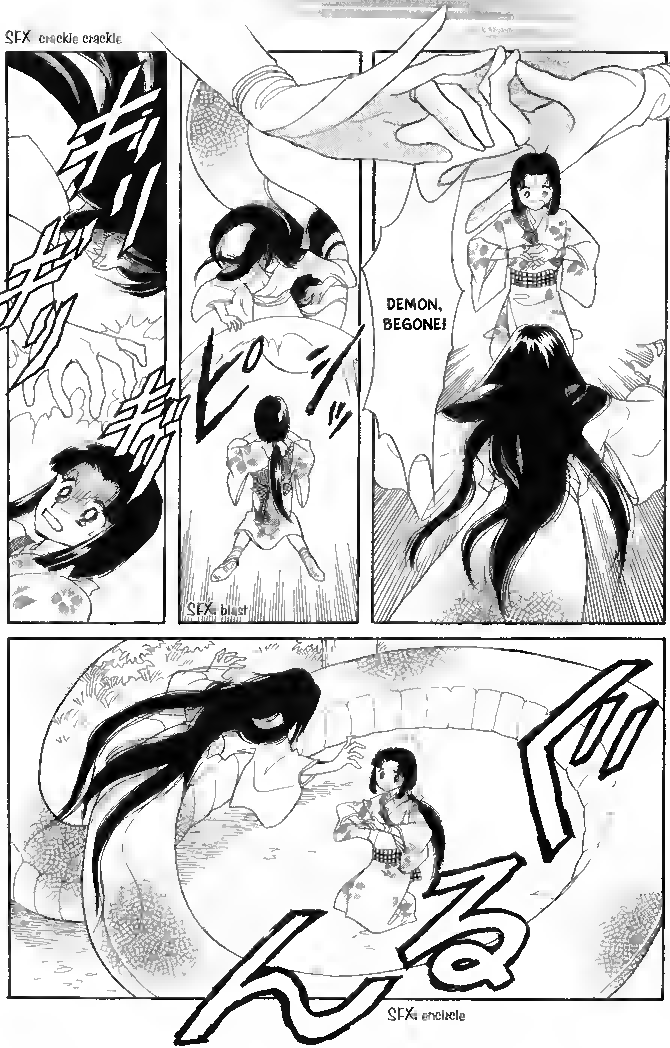
HIYA!
FWSH
SFX: blast

THUD
crash
ARGH!
DAMN! IT'S TARGETING LORD KIYOMARU!!
KIYO-MARU!!!
ANYONE, ANYTHING, JUST COME!
AHHHH!
KIYO-MARU!!
GASP!
SFX: WHOOSH

STOP THAT THING!
AAAGH

I DID IT!!
GOO
GM
WHAT DID I JUST SUMMON?
HISSSSSS
MAYBE THEY CAN FIGHT THAT
I WAS THINKING ABOUT THE MOUNTAIN SPIRITS, BUT
they came with the trees and everything

WENCH!
HOW DARE YOU... MOCK ME!
OH, NO, THEY CAN'T FIGHT
HEHATE


SFX: crackle crackle
SFX: blast
DEMON, BEGONE!
SFX: crackle

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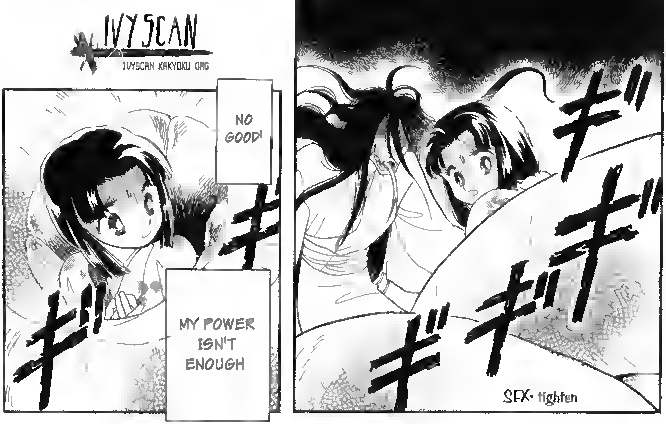
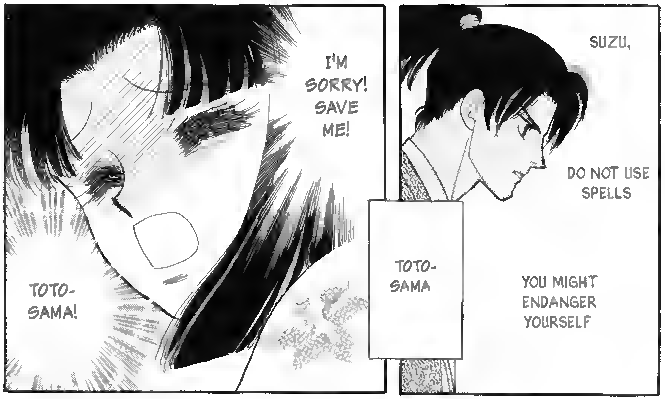
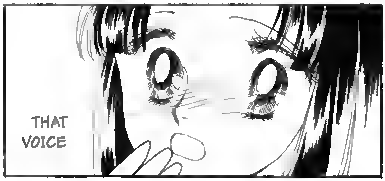


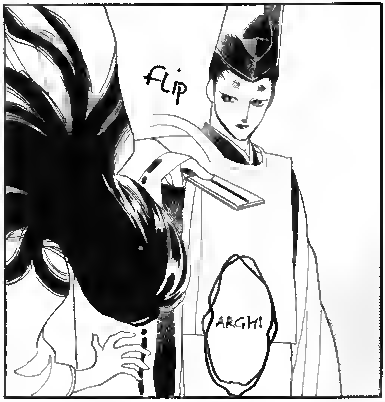


SFX: swoosh
SFX: whoosh
ヒュン
TOTO-SAMA'S FLUTE
HUH?

flail
flail
land
ooh!
ouch!
ouch!
swish....
plunk
moan
damn!

ARGH
lift
I WILL KILL YOU!
tap
push push push


THAT VOICE


flip
ARGH!

WHAT ARE YOU?
YOU'RE UGLIER THAN SIN.

URGH!
spin
spin
spin

GASP!
TAP
raise
BE-GONE!
AAAH!
SEX pop

Pooh~
YAWN
I WAS ALL READY FOR MY NAP
flap
flap
YET I WAS SUMMONED FOR SUCH A TRIVIAL MATTER
WELL
THAT FACE
gasp
HE IS
WHO CALLED ME?
WHERE AM I?

...TOTO-SAMA!!
IT'S TOTO-SAMA!
HALT.
push

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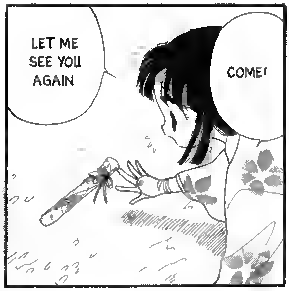
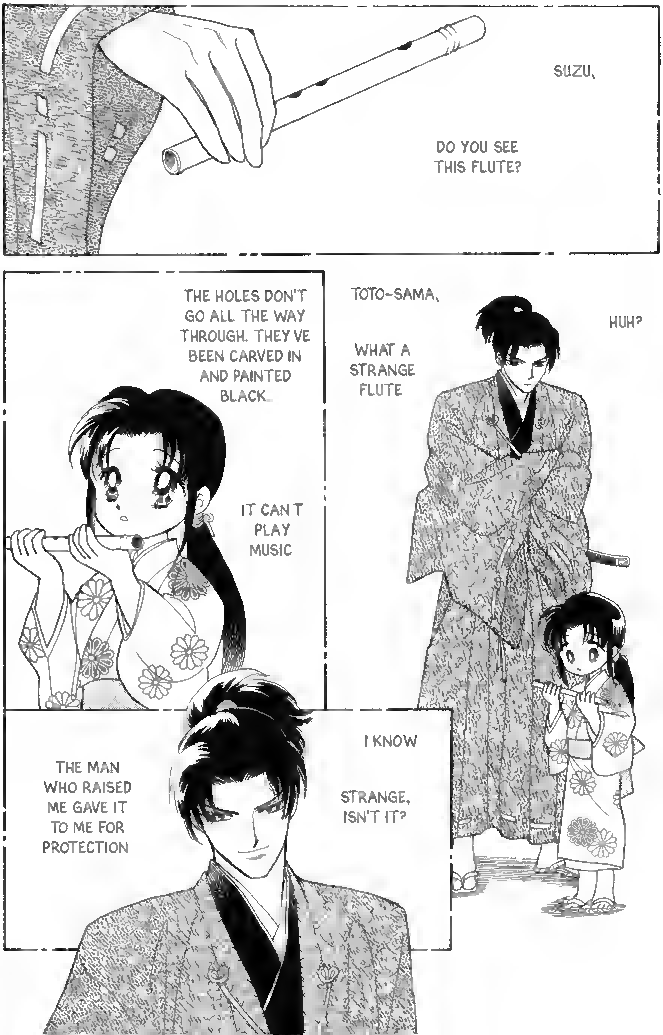
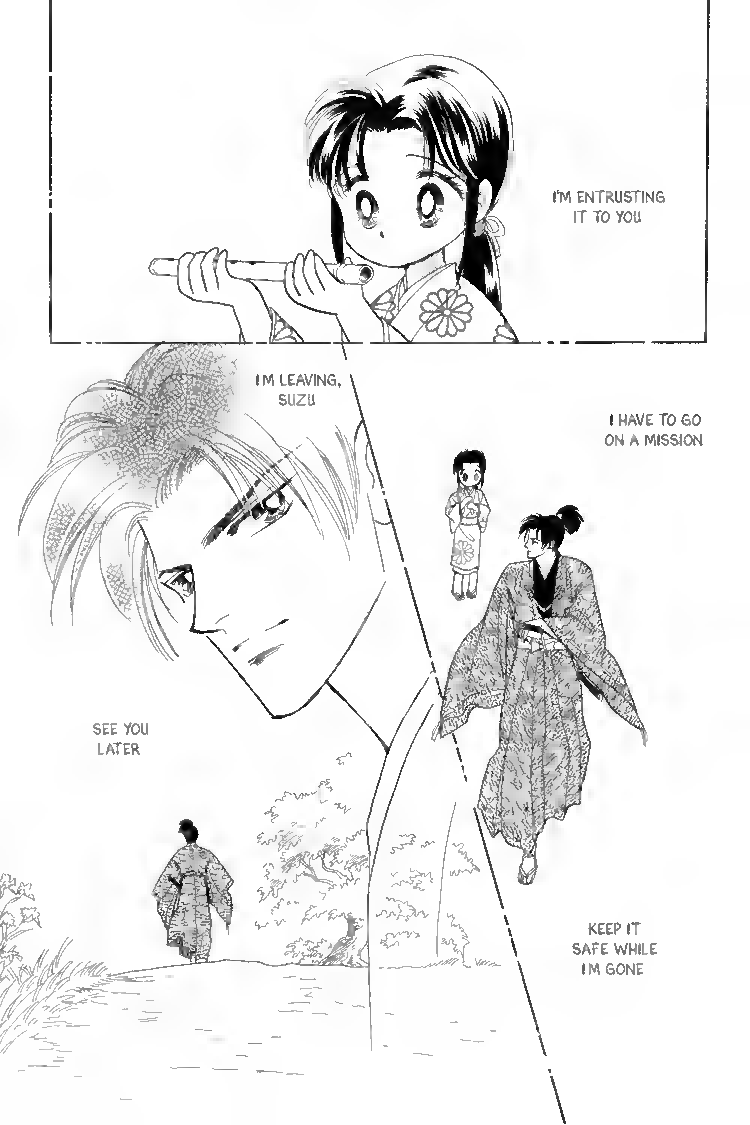

LET ME SEE YOU AGAIN
COME!

AH!
WHOOSH

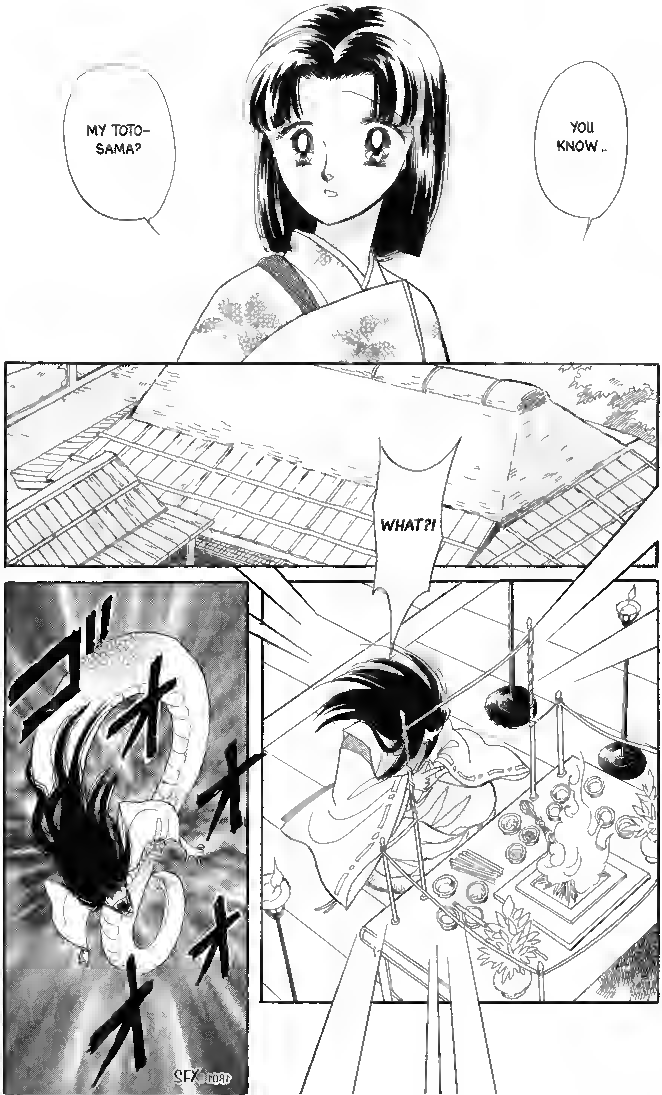
PLEASE COME OUT!

WAIT!
DON T GO!
DON T GO, PLEASE!


SUZU,
DO YOU SEE THIS FLUTE?
THE HOLES DON'T GO ALL THE WAY THROUGH. THEY'VE BEEN CARVED IN AND PAINTED BLACK.
IT CAN'T PLAY MUSIC
TOTO-SAMA,
WHAT A STRANGE FLUTE
HUH?
I KNOW
STRANGE, ISN'T IT?
THE MAN WHO RAISED ME GAVE IT TO ME FOR PROTECTION

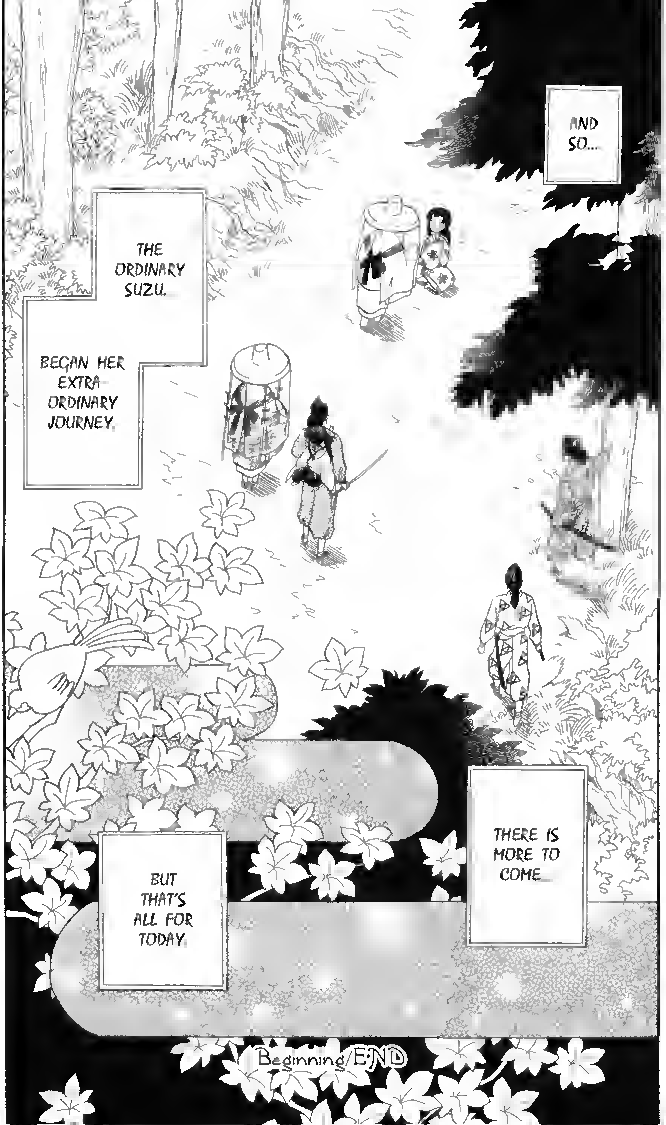

I'M ENTRUSTING IT TO YOU
I'M LEAVING, SUZU
I HAVE TO GO ON A MISSION
SEE YOU LATER
KEEP IT SAFE WHILE I'M GONE

TOTO-SAMA
drip
dip
drip
ARE YOU HIDAKA SHINKURO'S DAUGHTER?
YOU ARE...


MY TOTO-SAMA?
YOU KNOW..
WHAT?!
ゴオオオオ
SFX sharp

SFX angry
RIN
BYOU
TOU
SHA
KAI
JIN
RETSU
ZAI
ZEN!
SFX fwoom

SFX: thud
UGH
WHAT IS GOING ON?
WHO DEFLECTED MY SPELL?


AND SO...
THE ORDINARY SUZU.
BEGAN HER EXTRA-ORDINARY JOURNEY.
THERE IS MORE TO COME.
BUT THAT'S ALL FOR TODAY.
Beginning/END

IVYSCAN
IVYSCAN.KAKYOKU.ORG

HANA TO YUME COMICS

OTOGI MO YOU AYA NI SHIKI

KYOKO HIKAWA 1

Hana to Yume COMICS

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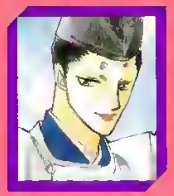
OTOGI MO YOU AYA NI SHIKI (1)

KYOKO HIKAWA

HAKUSENSHA



Hana To Yume COMICS

▶SUMMARY◀

Raised by a nun, the kind-hearted Suzune possesses an unknown power she has never tried to use. Suzune has always heeded the warning her surrogate father, Shinkuro, gave her about how dangerous her power could be. However, one day while crossing the mountain on an errand, she encounters a snake monster...

■Serialized in■
Lala

HAKUSENSHA

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OTOGI MO YOU AYA NI SHIKI
~ Encounter ~

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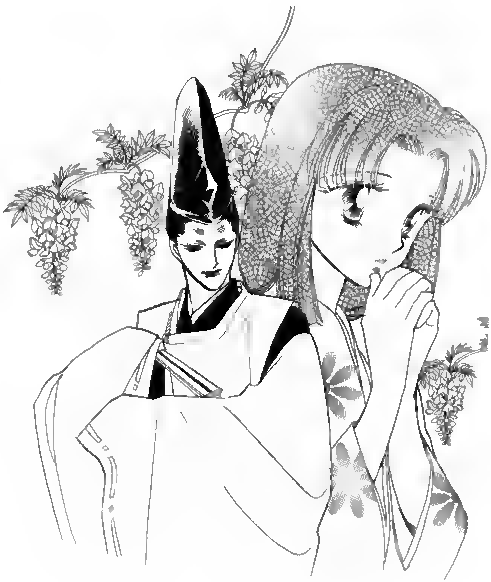


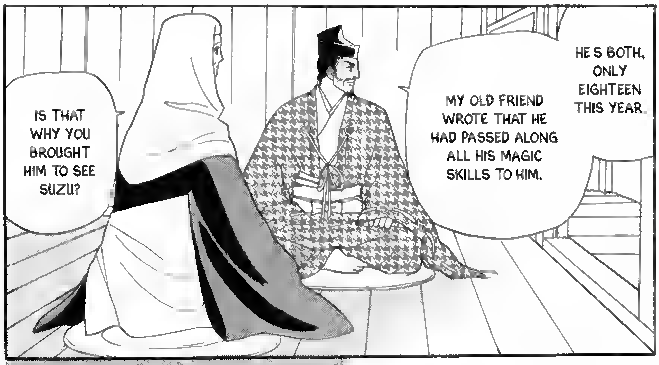
ONE TIME,
SUZU HEARD HER FRIEND BRAGGING ABOUT HER TOTO-SAMA
SUZU ONLY REMEMBERED HER KAKA-SAMA*
SO SHE ASKED HER FRIEND WHAT A TOTO-SAMA WAS.
A TOTO-SAMA IS...
TALL
AND STRONG...
BUT CAN BE SCARY...

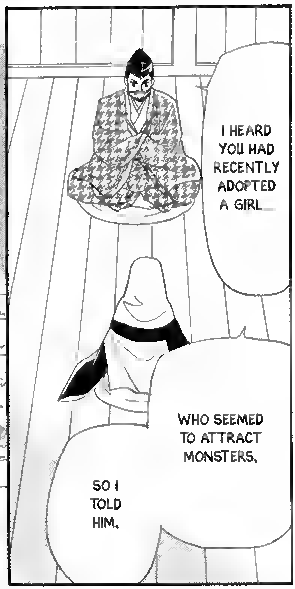
*mother

MY TOTO-SAMA IS ALSO KIND AND GENTLE.
HE ALWAYS PROTECTS ME FROM HARM.
GONE?
I LET HER GO OUT AND PLAY.
BUT WHERE DID SHE GO? I HOPE SHE'S ALL RIGHT...
MEANWHILE, SISTER SHOZEN...
SUZU?
SUZU!!
WAS SEARCHING HIGH AND LOW FOR SUZU.

OK THEN... SHINKURO...
GO FIND HER
HUH?
YOU WANT...
ME...
TO FIND HER?
THAT'S RIGHT
THIS WILL BE YOUR TEST FOR EMPLOYMENT...

SHOW ME WHAT YOU'VE GOT
USE YOUR MAGIC TO FIND HER
YES.
HE LOOKS CAPABLE...
AS YOU WISH
BUT VERY YOUNG


IS THAT WHY YOU BROUGHT HIM TO SEE SUZU?
MY OLD FRIEND WROTE THAT HE HAD PASSED ALONG ALL HIS MAGIC SKILLS TO HIM.
HE'S BOTH, ONLY EIGHTEEN THIS YEAR.



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YOU WANT ME TO BE HER NANNY?
JEEZ...
rustle
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO TAKE CARE OF A CHILD!

THIS IS A TIME OF CHAOS, SHINKURO
CAN YOU SEE IT?
THE BLACK DRAGON?
THE BLACK DRAGON IS SOARING IN THE SKY
CHAOS IS SPREADING ACROSS THE LAND AND STRIPPING THE PEOPLE OF THEIR MORALE
THE WAR DRAINED THE RESOURCES OF THE CAPITAL
MONSTERS ARE TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THAT AND THRIVING

BUT I CAN NEVER FORGET MY HOME COUNTRY
I CHOSE TO LIVE AWAY FROM THE WORLD...
SHINKURO,
AND WATCH OVER MY HOMETOWN...
AFTER I DIE, I WOULD LIKE YOU TO GO TO MY COUNTRY...
DURING THIS TIME OF CHAOS
I KNOW YOU WON'T FAIL ME...
WHAT COULD I SAY?
SO I'VE WRITTEN TO MY OLD FRIEND
IT WAS HIS LAST WISH... I OWE HIM MY LIFE FOR TAKING CARE OF ME

Wah—
Wah—
GIVE IT BACK!
ANJU-SAMA GAVE ME THAT BALL!
HAH!
catch
HEY!
SO WHAT?
YOU THINK YOU DESERVE IT?

WHOO
IF YOU WANT IT, COME AND GET IT!
Ah!
WAIT!
WE NEED TO GET OUT OF HERE!
HUH?
THIS PLACE—
IT'S THE TERRITORY OF A MONSTER!

LOTS OF PEOPLE HAVE DISAPPEARED AROUND HERE.
THE GROWNUPS TOLD US NEVER TO COME NEAR THIS PLACE.
OH, YEAH...
PANIC
WE CAME WITHOUT REALIZING?
THERE!
throw
WHO WANTS THAT DUMB THING, ANYWAY?
Hmph!
STUPID, THERE'S NO MONSTER.
SUZU IS JUST TRYING TO SCARE US

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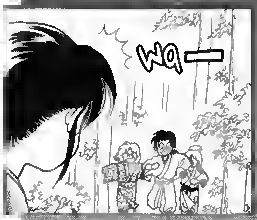

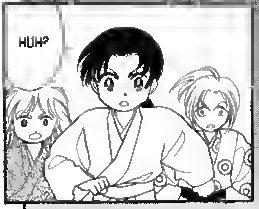

roll
WHY DID WE END UP BACK HERE?
WHY?
SUZU
WE WERE RUNNING AWAY FROM HER
HOW...?
WHY IS IT MY FAULT?
I-IT'S YOUR FAULT, SUZU! FIX IT!
YOU THREW MY BALL INTO THE FOREST
SHUT UP! SHUT UP!

WAH!
POP
POP
POP
GO TELL THE MONSTER TO LET US GO!
YOU'RE A DEMON CHILD!
DON'T TRY TO BLAME ME!
YOU MUST BE A MONSTER, TOO!
SEE! MONSTERS!
THAT'S GROSS!
OUCH—
DON'T YOU DARE!
YANK
IT'S SO GR—

WAH! MONSTER!
OW, OW, OW!
IDIOT, I'M A HUMAN!
ALL OF YOU BULLYING A GIRL—
ARE YOU MEN?
SHAME ON YOU!
weak

HUH?
OH? SUCH STRANGE CREATURES
AH...
Mack
ARE YOU SUZU?
I'VE COME TO GET YOU!
WHAT ARE YOU?
HE DIDN'T THINK MY MONSTERS WERE GROSS
FLAP FLAP
BE GONE
poof

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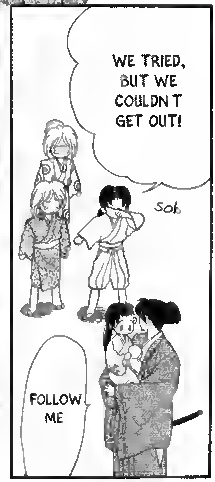
YOU THINK YOU'RE A GROWNUP?
GO DIE! DIE!
AH...
PARDON ME.

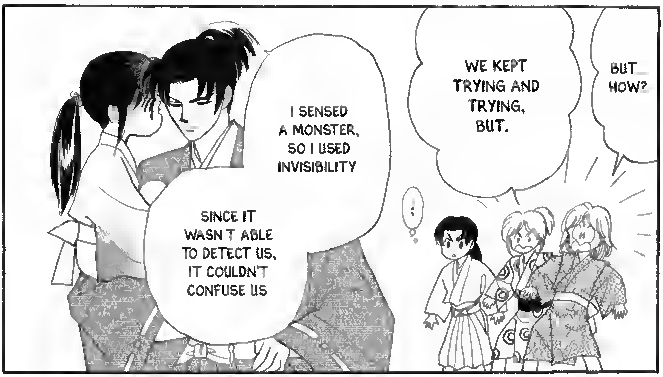
STAND
hup
OH...
SO HIGH.
THE AIR HAS CLEARED

WE'RE STUCK!
W-WE CAN'T GO!
CAN'T YOU DO ANY-THING?
HEY, YOU.. YOU..

LET'S GO HOME
A TOTO-SAMA IS TALL AND STRONG...

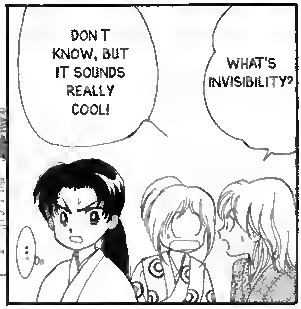
WE'RE OUT!
WHOA!


WE TRIED, BUT WE COULDN'T GET OUT!
Sob
FOLLOW ME


I SENSED A MONSTER, SO I USED INVISIBILITY
SINCE IT WASN'T ABLE TO DETECT US, IT COULDN'T CONFUSE US
WE KEPT TRYING AND TRYING, BUT.
BUT... HOW?

SO LONG...

stare
KIND AND GENTLE
TALL AND STRONG
BUT CAN BE SCARY


DON'T KNOW, BUT IT SOUNDS REALLY COOL!
WHAT'S INVISIBILITY?

stare
AND PROTECTS ME FROM HARM
hug
TOTO-SAMA
push
HEY, STOP STARING
TOTO-SAMA

Aha ha ha ha!
WHAT?
TOTO-SAMA
AH, YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN HIS FACE!
THAT LITTLE GIRL CALLED SHINKURO TOTO-SAMA
SO,
SUCH A HEARTWARMING STORY!

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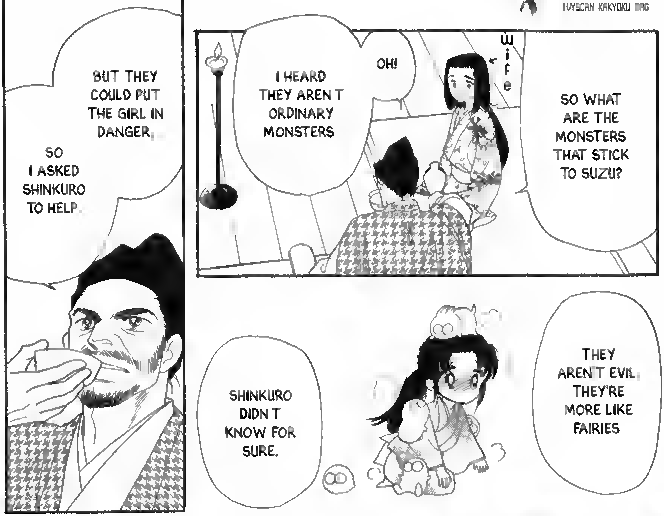
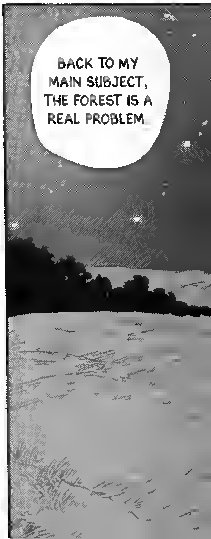
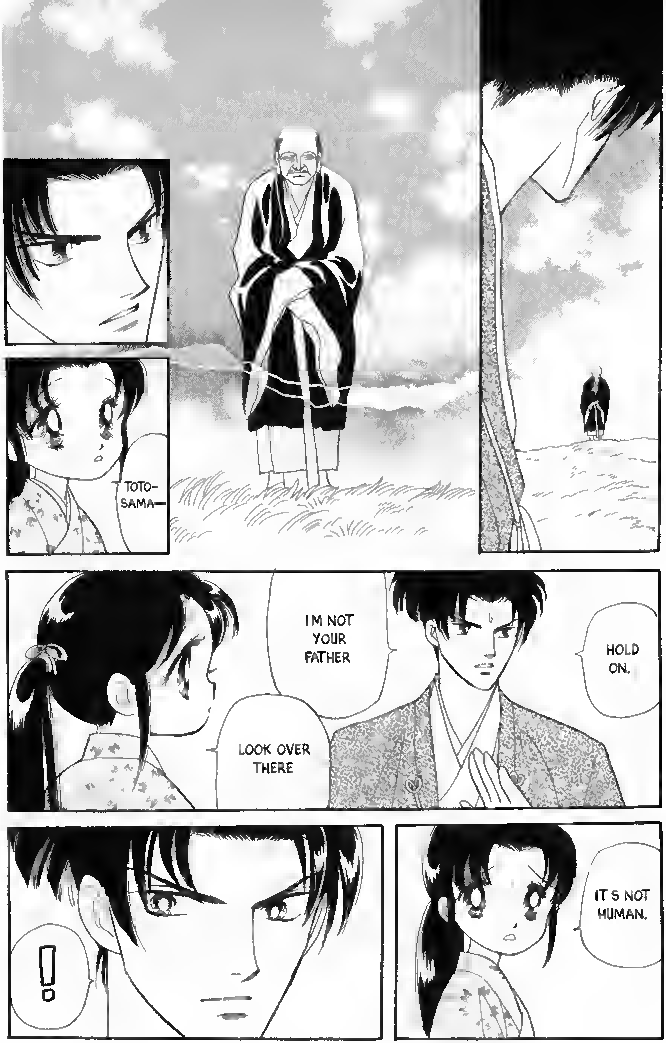

BUT THEY COULD PUT THE GIRL IN DANGER.
SO I ASKED SHINKURO TO HELP.
I HEARD THEY AREN'T ORDINARY MONSTERS
OH!
wife
SO WHAT ARE THE MONSTERS THAT STICK TO SUZU?
SHINKURO DIDN'T KNOW FOR SURE.
THEY AREN'T EVIL. THEY'RE MORE LIKE FAIRIES

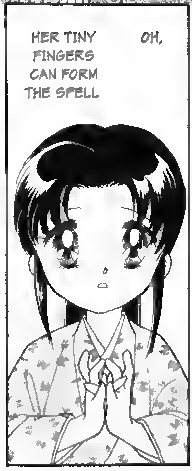


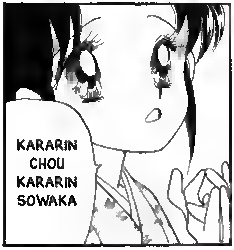
HMM.
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
rustle
rustle
rustle
BUT IF THEY KEEP POPPING UP LIKE THAT..
THEY AREN'T TRYING TO TAKE OVER YOUR BODY...


TOTO-SAMA—
HOLD ON.
I'M NOT YOUR FATHER
LOOK OVER THERE
!
IT'S NOT HUMAN.

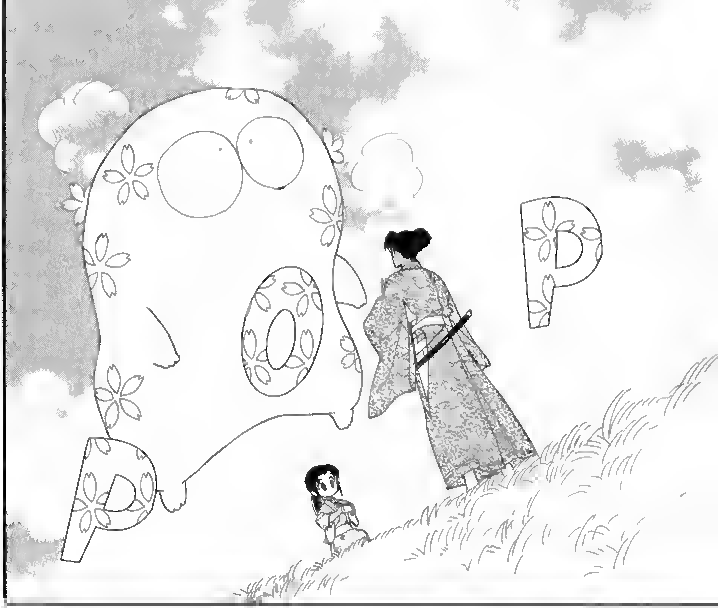
SWOOSH
SWISH
gone.

WHAT WAS THAT?
IT'S GONE
YOU COULD TELL?
LEFT, RIGHT
IT EMITTED A WAVE OF MENACE AND THEN DISAPPEARED
OH.
YOU COULD TELL?
HMM.
YOU HAVE GREAT POTENTIAL!





*old man or grandfather


POP

AHH!
WHOA!

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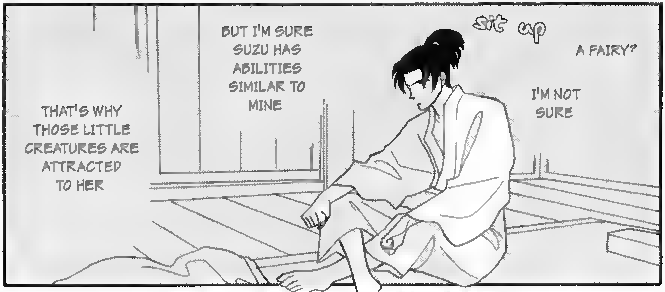
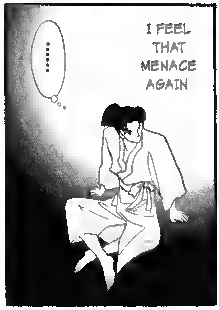
I'LL GIVE YOU SOME OF MY KI*
ARE YOU OK?
Pat Pat
I DIDN'T THINK YOUR SPELL WOULD WORK ON THE FIRST TRY
SORRY
AND IT WAS SUCH AN UNUSUAL CREATURE

*ki = spiritual energy

hold
TOTO-SAMA
I'M NOT YOUR TOTO-SAMA.
IT RESPONDED TO HER SUMMONING
hoot hoot


BUT I'M SURE SUZU HAS ABILITIES SIMILAR TO MINE
sit up
A FAIRY?
I'M NOT SURE
THAT'S WHY THOSE LITTLE CREATURES ARE ATTRACTED TO HER

SUZU HAS BARELY ENOUGH ABILITY TO FEND THEM OFF
MUST BE
AND WHEN SHE DOES, SHE BECOMES TOO WEAK TO MOVE.


I FEEL THAT MENACE AGAIN

ANYWAY, I'LL TEACH HER PROTECTION AND INVISIBILITY SPELLS
I BELIEVE SHE CAN DO BOTH

WHO DOES THAT SHINKURO THINK HE IS?
I RECOGNIZE ITS KI.
HE'S NOT EVEN AN OFFICER,
YET HE'S BEING TREATED LIKE ONE
IS IT CORRUPTING THESE GUARDS?
WHY SHOULD THE MASTER TRUST HIM?
HE HASN'T PROVEN HIMSELF
IT'S SO UNFAIR!
OR A CON ARTIST...
HE'S JUST A ROOKIE WITH NO EXPERI-ENCE...
COME ON! STOP BAD-MOUTHING PEOPLE.

GRIN

HE'S THE MONSTER OF THE FOREST.
I SEE.
HE'S POINTING
HE'S UPSET BECAUSE WE ESCAPED FROM HIM IN THE FOREST, BUT HE CAN'T DO ANYTHING OUTSIDE HIS TERRITORY
THAT'S WHY HE KEEPS CALLING ME
AND BADGERING ME
SO

HE'S CHALLENGING ME.
PUT...
TOTO-SAMA IS HERE
AH!

SISTER SHOZEN AND LORD SOEMON
TOTO—
run run run
IS TOTO-SAMA NICE TO YOU?
SUZU,
YOUR TOTO-SAMA WILL PROTECT YOU~~
SUZU~~
Ah!
BUT SHE REMEMPERED SHINKURO DIDN'T LIKE BEING CALLED THAT...
I'M NOT YOUR TOTO-SAMA
BOTH REFERRED TO SHINKURO AS TOTO SAMA
SO SUZU THOUGHT THAT WAS WHO HE WAS.
SO SHE TRIED VERY HARD NOT TO SAY IT
Pause
.....

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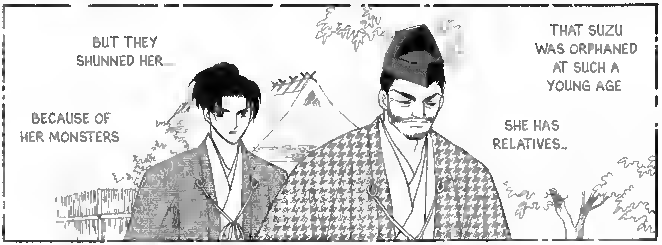
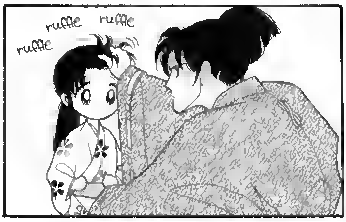
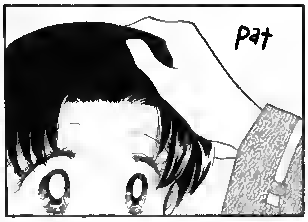






WITHOUT ANY PROTECTION FROM THIS CRUEL WORLD
SUCH A TINY PERSON...
SHE DESERVES A PROTECTOR
SUZU,
I CAN'T PLAY WITH YOU TODAY.
WHAT?
SHINKURO?
WE HEARD HE'S GONE OFF TO FIGHT THAT FOREST MONSTER...
ALONE!

OUR LORD WENT TO SISTER SHOZEN'S TEMPLE TO AWAIT HIS RETURN.
AH! HE DIDN'T EVEN TAKE ALONG A MESSENGER.
HE SAID IF HE WASN'T ALONE, THE MONSTER WOULDN'T COME.
IF I AM SUCCESSFUL IN THIS MISSION, PLEASE GIVE ME A JOB
YOU HAVE MY WORD
YOUR PROBLEM WILL TAKE SOME TIME
BUT I NEED TO PROVE MYSELF RIGHT AWAY...
pull
OR ELSE PEOPLE WILL COMPLAIN.

ARE YOU GOING TO FIGHT THAT MONSTER?
GO WAIT AT HOME FOR ME
HUH?
sparkle
THERE'S A SILK STRING ON TOTO-SAMA'S BACK, LIKE FROM A SPIDER'S
SFX: howling

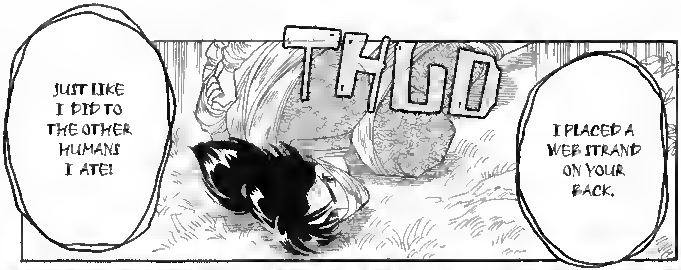
YOU CAME.
YOU DIDN'T BACK AWAY FROM MY CHALLENGE.
I MUST SAY, YOU HAVE GUTS.
I KNEW YOU WERE WAITING.
SO YOU CAN TALK IN YOUR TERRITORY

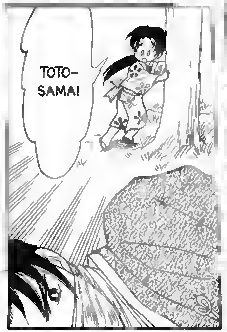
IT ISN'T LIKE THE OUTSIDE WORLD.
THIS IS MY WEB.
POP
SPLIT
SPLIT
YOU HAVE UNDERESTIMATED YOUR ENEMY, AND STEPPED RIGHT INTO IT,
YOUNG MAN!
YOU WILL PAY FOR YOUR STUPIDITY!
SWISH

RIN BYOU
TOU SHA KAI
JIN RETSU
ZAI ZEN

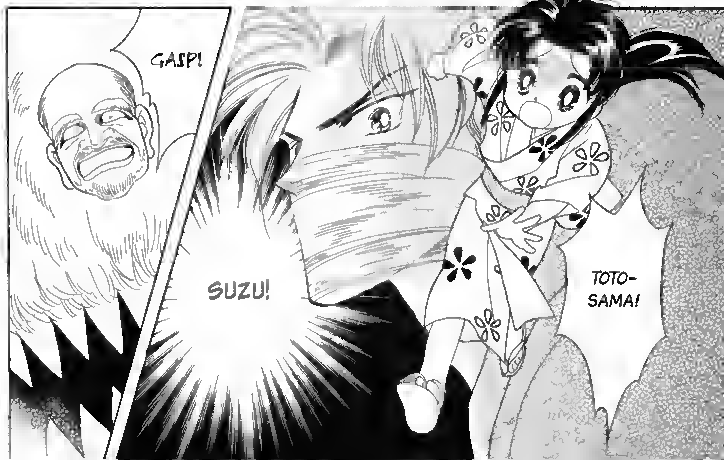
MAKARASHA DASOWATAYA UN TAFU TAKANMAN
NOU MAKU SANMANDA BASA RADAN SENDA
ON KIRI KIRI
ON KIRI KIRI
SFX stop
grin
A BINDING SPELL...
GRRR.
SFX struggle

MMF!
SWISH
WAH HA HA HA HA!
FOOL!
YOU THOUGHT I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING OUTSIDE?


JUST LIKE I DID TO THE OTHER HUMANS I ATE!
THUD
I PLACED A WEB STRAND ON YOUR BACK.


TOTO-SAMA!

SEE? NOW YOU'RE UNABLE TO PERFORM ANY SPELLS.


GASP!
SUZU!
TOTO-SAMA!

WHO IS THIS BRAT?
STRETCH
BE GONE!

DAMN!
SFX: tear
CLASP
NOU MAKU
SANSENDA
BASARADAN
SENDA
MAKARASHA
DASOWATAYA
UN TARA
TAKANMAN

SFX: stop
ON KIRI KIRI
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
URGH
ON KIRI KIRI
CRACKLE
throw
SFX: swish

GASP!
THWUNK
CLEAVE!
SFX: Arghhh

ドゥ
SFX: thud
SUZU!
SWISH

IVYSCAN
IVYSCAN KANYOKU BBS

ALL RIGHT...
I OWE YOU...
AN 18-YEAR-OLD THE FATHER OF A 7-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER?
OH, WELL...

Encounter/END

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OTOGI MO YOU AYA NI SHIKI
Empower

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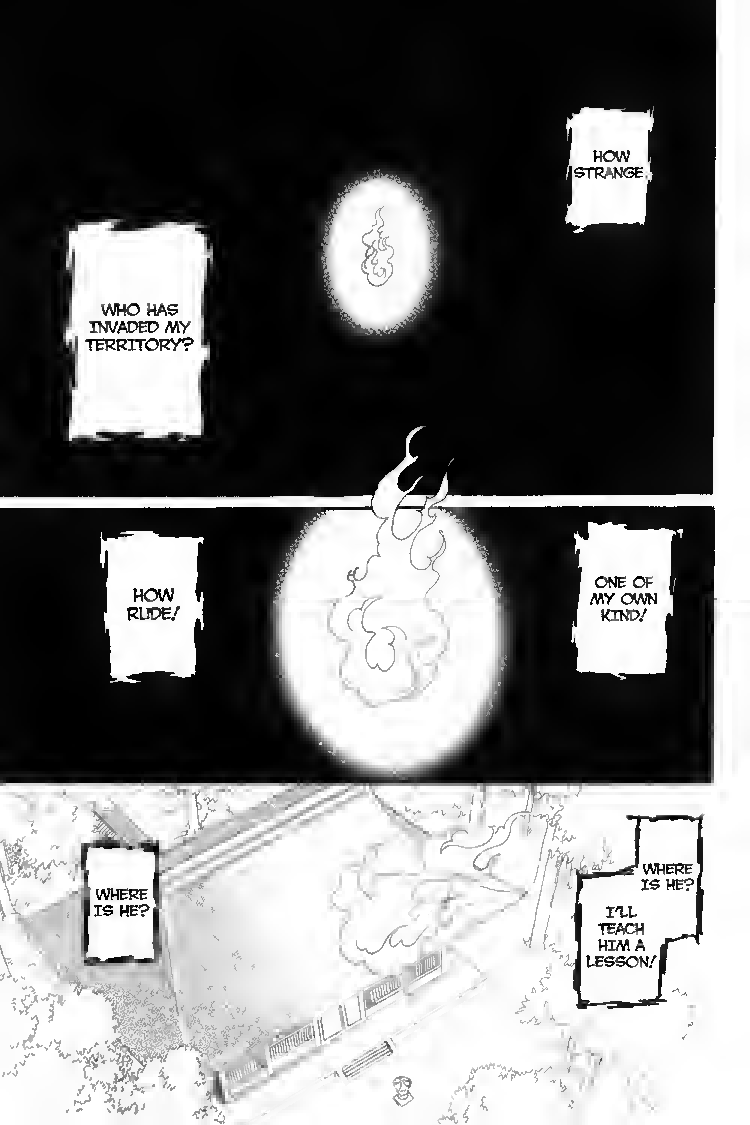
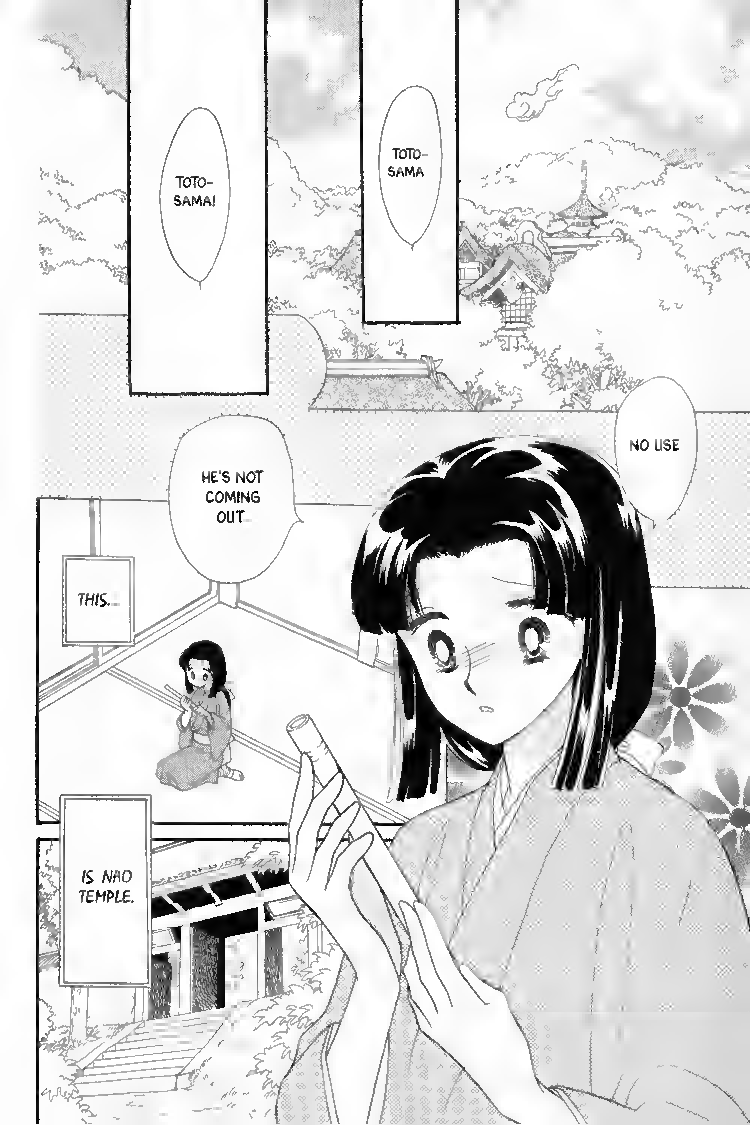

HOW STRANGE
WHO HAS INVADED MY TERRITORY?
HOW RUDE!
ONE OF MY OWN KIND!
WHERE IS HE?
WHERE IS HE?
I'LL TEACH HIM A LESSON!

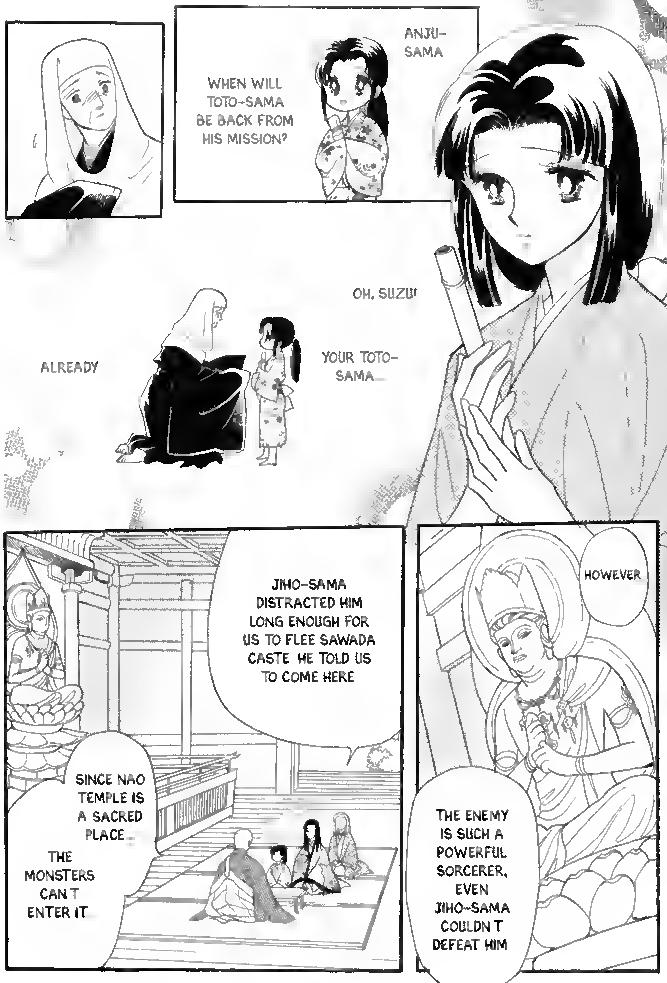

TOTO-SAMA!
TOTO-SAMA
NO USE
HE'S NOT COMING OUT
THIS...
IS NAO TEMPLE.

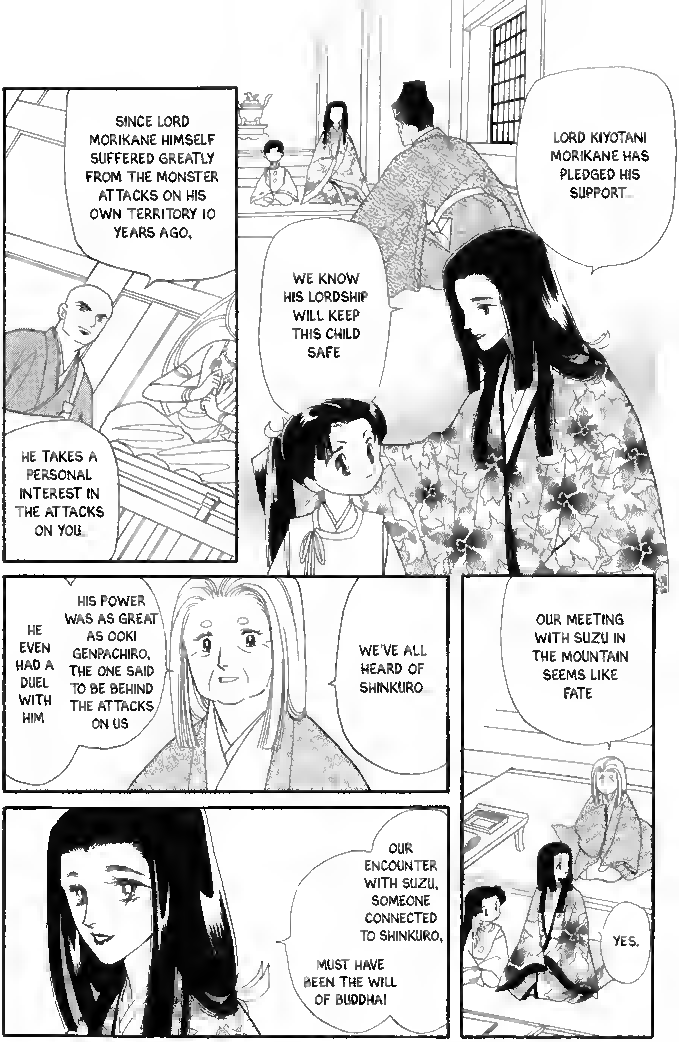
PREVIOUSLY, SUZU MET KIYOMARU, THE YOUNG LORD OF MOMOHARA, AND HIS MOTHER, HAGI-SAMA, ON THE MOUNTAIN.
SUZU PROTECTED THEM FROM THE SNAKE DEMON, AND TO SHOW THEIR APPRECIATION,
THEY INVITED HER TO STAY WITH THEM AT THE TEMPLE DORMITORY.
IT'S BEEN THREE DAYS.
MY ANKLE HAS GOTTEN BETTER

WHO IN THE WORLD WAS HE?
BACK THEN,
WHEN WE WERE ABOUT TO BE KILLED BY THE SNAKE MONSTER,
SOMEONE WHO LOOKED LIKE A NOBLEMAN APPEARED FROM TOTO-SAMA'S FLUTE
TOTO-SAMA HAS BEEN MISSING FOR 10 YEARS
AND THAT NOBLEMAN LOOKED JUST LIKE HIM

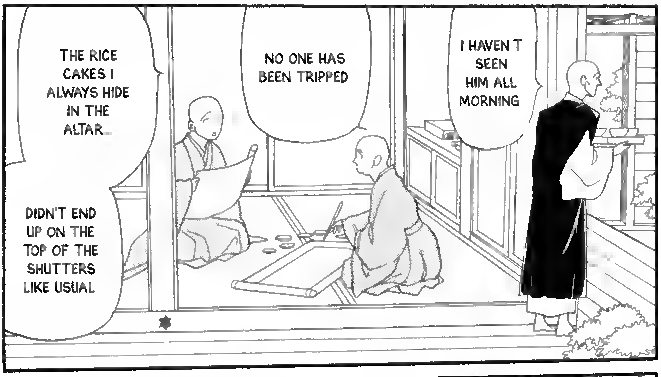
IVYSCAN
IVYSCAN KOKYOKU ORG

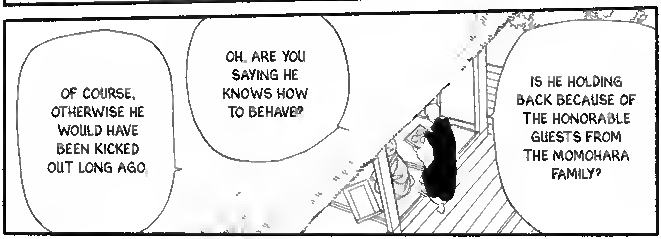
YOU, TOO, WERE BORN WITH EXTRAORDINARY ABILITIES AND FIND THEM A BURDEN
pat
SUZU,
YOU WILL APPRECIATE HAVING SUCH POWER
ONE DAY,
fuffle fuffle
I'LL TEACH YOU ONE THING AT A TIME...
SO YOU CAN MASTER YOUR ABILITIES
BECAUSE OF MY POWER, I WAS ABLE TO MEET YOU.
THAT DAY ALREADY ARRIVED, TOTO-SAMA

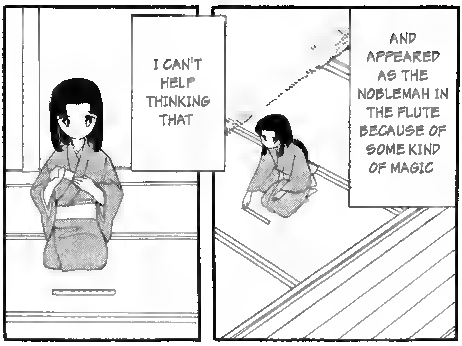

ANJU-SAMA
WHEN WILL TOTO-SAMA BE BACK FROM HIS MISSION?
OH, SUZU!
YOUR TOTO-SAMA...
ALREADY
JIHO-SAMA DISTRACTED HIM LONG ENOUGH FOR US TO FLEE SAWADA CASTE. HE TOLD US TO COME HERE
SINCE NAO TEMPLE IS A SACRED PLACE...
THE MONSTERS CAN'T ENTER IT.
HOWEVER
THE ENEMY IS SUCH A POWERFUL SORCERER, EVEN JIHO-SAMA COULDN'T DEFEAT HIM


SINCE LORD MORIKANE HIMSELF SUFFERED GREATLY FROM THE MONSTER ATTACKS ON HIS OWN TERRITORY 10 YEARS AGO,
HE TAKES A PERSONAL INTEREST IN THE ATTACKS ON YOU.
LORD KIYOTANI MORIKANE HAS PLEDGED HIS SUPPORT...
WE KNOW HIS LORDSHIP WILL KEEP THIS CHILD SAFE
HE EVEN HAD A DUEL WITH HIM.
HIS POWER WAS AS GREAT AS OOKI GENPACHIRO, THE ONE SAID TO BE BEHIND THE ATTACKS ON US
WE'VE ALL HEARD OF SHINKURO
OUR MEETING WITH SUZU IN THE MOUNTAIN SEEMS LIKE FATE
YES.
OUR ENCOUNTER WITH SUZU, SOMEONE CONNECTED TO SHINKURO,
MUST HAVE BEEN THE WILL OF BUDDHA!

IF GENPACHIRO IS STILL ALIVE,
JIKAN-SAMA,
SUZU SEEMS TO BE INTERESTED IN GENPACHIRO, TOO.
I WOULD LIKE TO MEET HIM
AND ASK HIM ABOUT TOTO-SAMA!
THAT'S RIGHT! NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...
NORMALLY, HE WOULD HAVE GOTTEN INTO SOME MISCHIEF BY NOW.
HEY,
WHAT HAPPENED TO GOROTA TODAY?

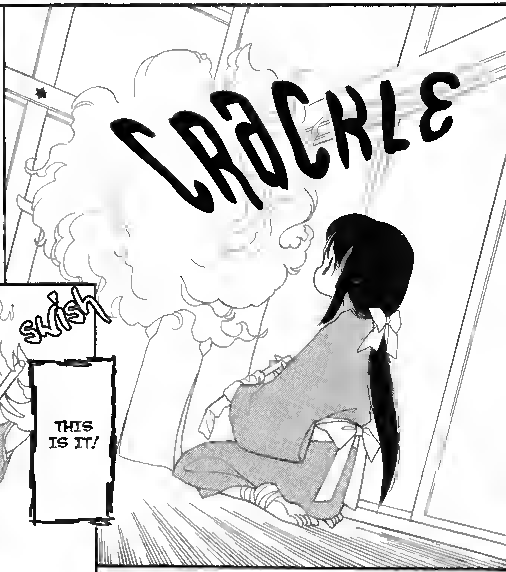

THE RICE CAKES I ALWAYS HIDE IN THE ALTAR...
DIDN'T END UP ON THE TOP OF THE SHUTTERS LIKE USUAL
NO ONE HAS BEEN TRIPPED
I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM ALL MORNING


OF COURSE, OTHERWISE HE WOULD HAVE BEEN KICKED OUT LONG AGO.
OH. ARE YOU SAYING HE KNOWS HOW TO BEHAVE?
IS HE HOLDING BACK BECAUSE OF THE HONORABLE GUESTS FROM THE MOMOHARA FAMILY?


I CAN'T HELP THINKING THAT
AND APPEARED AS THE NOBLEMAH IN THE FLUTE BECAUSE OF SOME KIND OF MAGIC
MAYBE
TOTO-SAMA IS STILL ALIVE SOMEWHERE

ALTHOUGH I KEEP SUMMONING THE NOBLEMAN SO I CAN ASK HIM THINGS, HE HASN'T RESPONDED

WHAT SHOULD I DO TO MAKE HIM COME OUT?



IVYSCAN
IVYSCAN.JOYOKU.ORG

TRIP
THUD
AHH!
TOTO-SAMA S FLUTE!
WHAT IS THAT FIREBALL?
WHAT?
CRACKLE
I'LL DESTROY YOU!
Knock
AH!
HMPH!

crack
GIVE IT BACK!
WHOOSH
STOP!
HOW COULD YOU?
CRACKLE
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
BLAST
GAH!

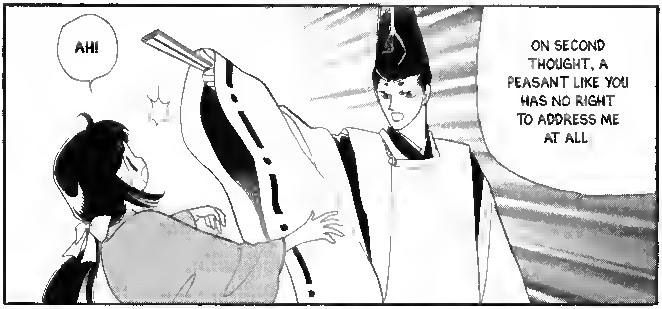
IT'S HIM!
WHO DISTURBED MY SLUMBER THIS TIME?
WHAT'S GOING ON?

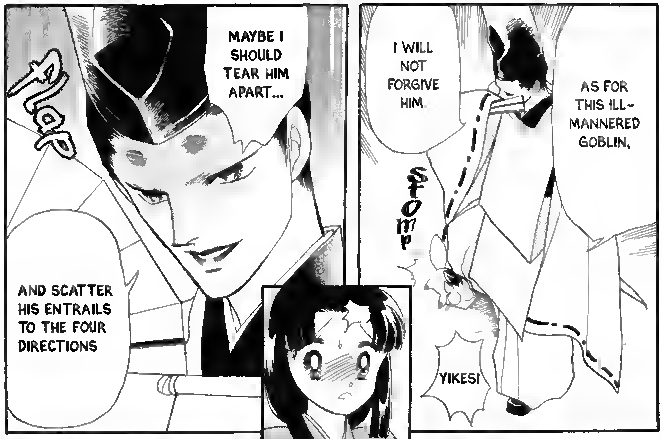
PREPARE YOURSELF!
YOU FINALLY CAME OUT, YOU SCOUNDREL!
I'LL TEACH YOU A LESSON!
BLOCK
HUH?
HOW DARE YOU BLOCK ME!
UH...
YOU'RE STRONG!
THIS IS NOT THE SMELL OF THE INTRUDER
HUH? THAT'S WEIRD
WAIT...
sniff
sniff

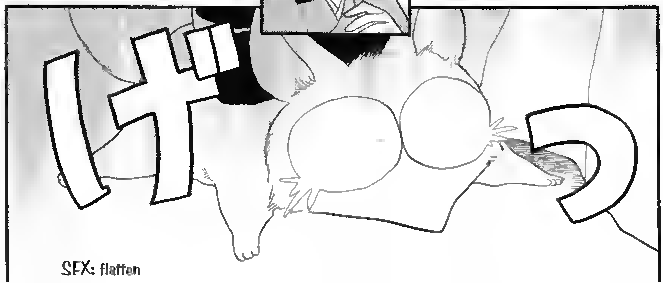
IVYSCAN
IVYSCAN KOKYOKU GAG

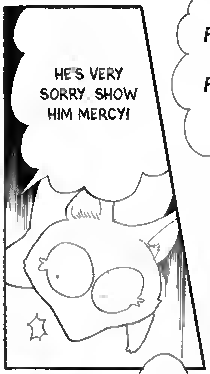
A LITTLE FOX?
IMPUDENT CREATURE!
reach
I OUGHT TO TEACH YOU A LESSON.
WAIT
TOTO-SAMA!
WAIT A MOMENT,
POOF
FORGIVE ME! FORGIVE ME!
GASP

push
SINCE HE'S APOLOGIZED, PLEASE FORGIVE HIM.
PUSH
YOU AGAIN?
I ALREADY TOLD YOU! I AM NOT YOUR TOTO-SAMA. DIDN'T YOU LISTEN?
I AM
WHAT IS YOUR NAME?
THEN, HOW SHOULD I ADDRESS YOU?
IT'S NOT IMPORTANT.
?

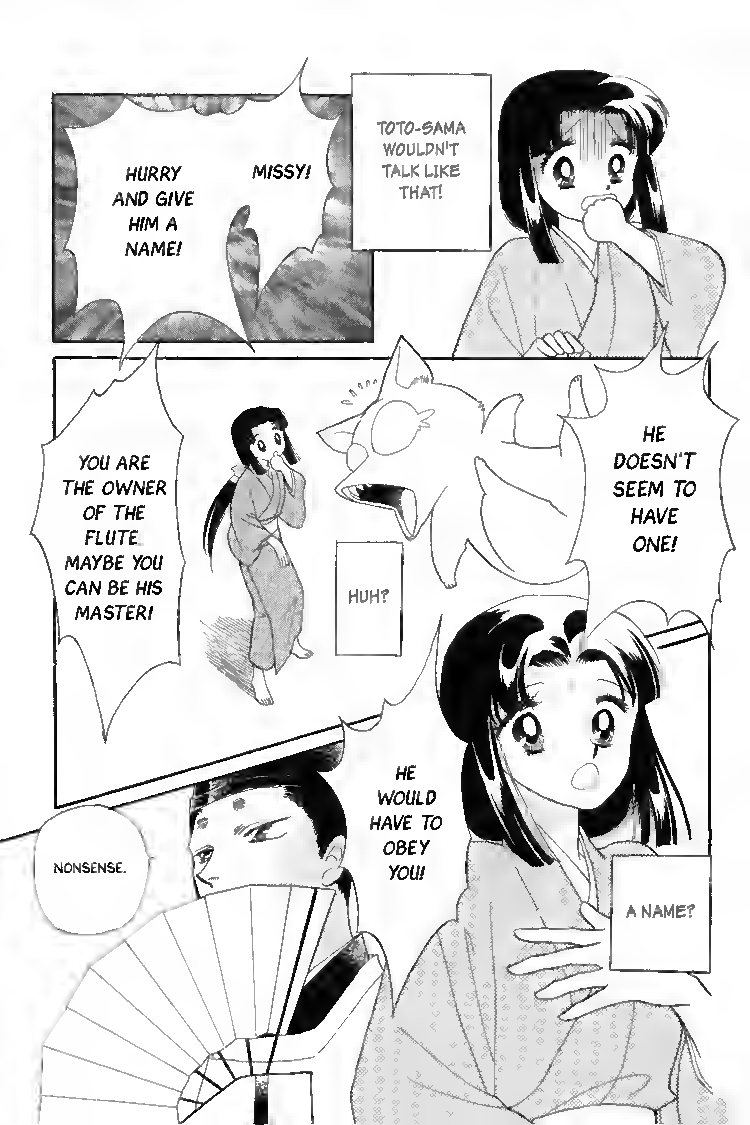

AH!
ON SECOND THOUGHT, A PEASANT LIKE YOU HAS NO RIGHT TO ADDRESS ME AT ALL


MAYBE I SHOULD TEAR HIM APART...
slap
AND SCATTER HIS ENTRAILS TO THE FOUR DIRECTIONS
I WILL NOT FORGIVE HIM.
AS FOR THIS ILL-MANNERED GOBLIN,
stomp
YIKES!


ゲン
SFX: flatten

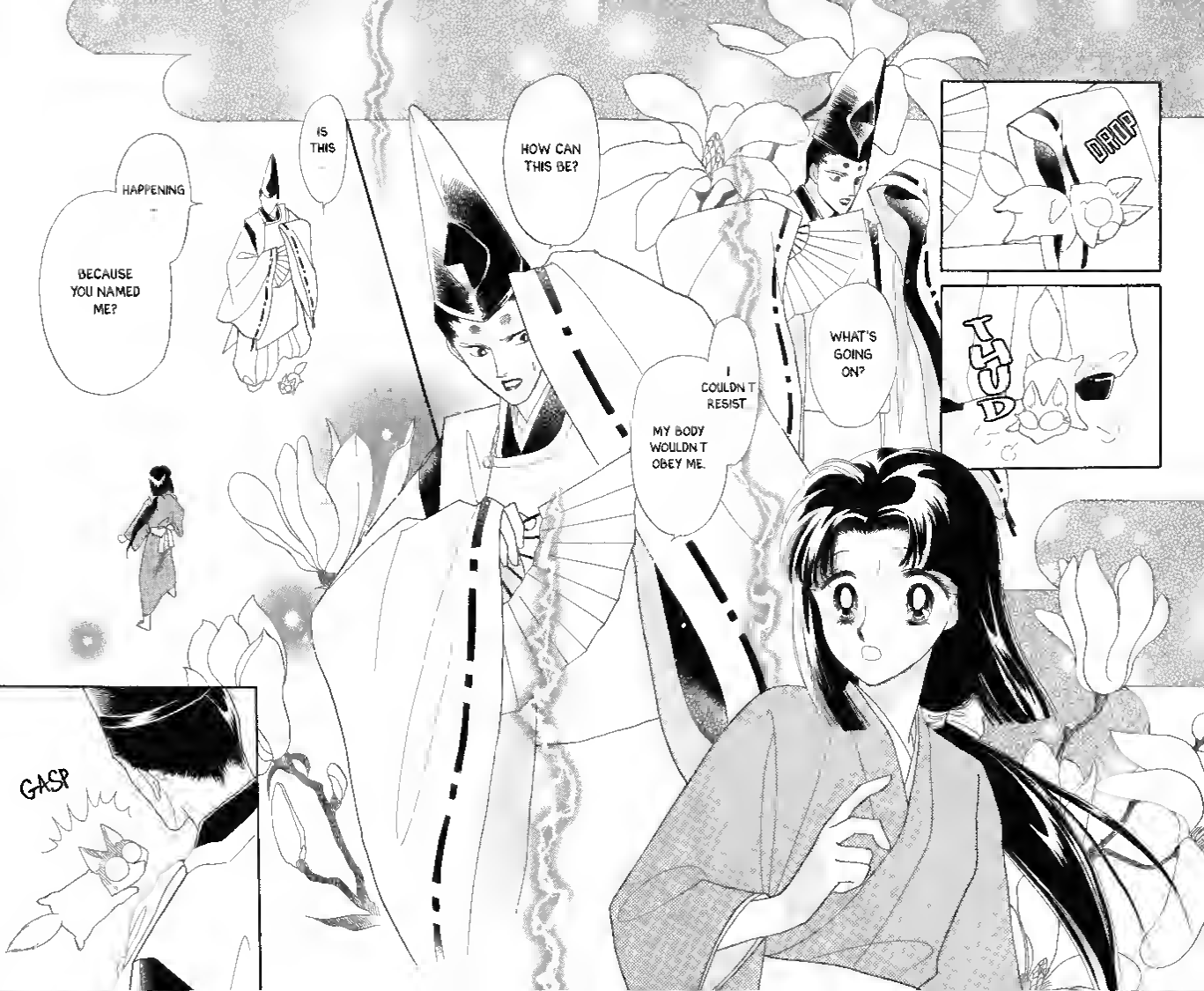


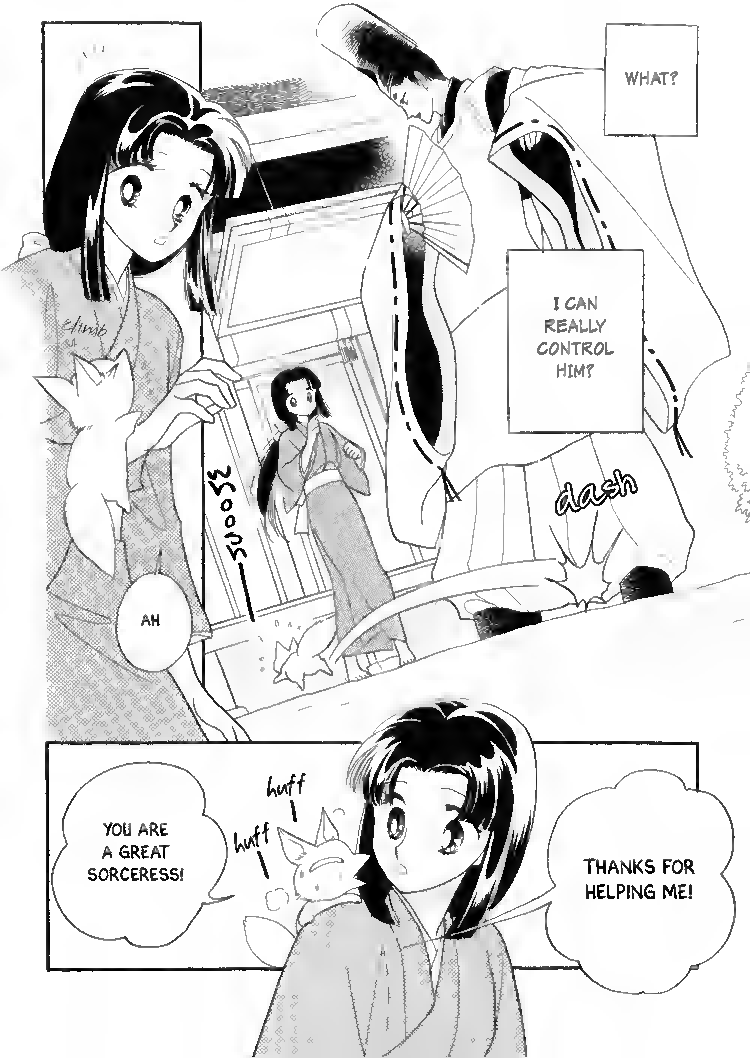
IVYSCAN
IVYSCAN.KAKYOKU.ORG


TOTO-SAMA WOULDN'T TALK LIKE THAT!
MISSY!
HURRY AND GIVE HIM A NAME!
HE DOESN'T SEEM TO HAVE ONE!
YOU ARE THE OWNER OF THE FLUTE. MAYBE YOU CAN BE HIS MASTER!
HUH?
HE WOULD HAVE TO OBEY YOU!!
A NAME?
NONSENSE.

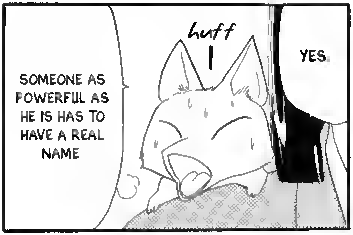
*Silly term for 'nobleman', derived from their habit of adding 'ojaru' at the end of their sentences.

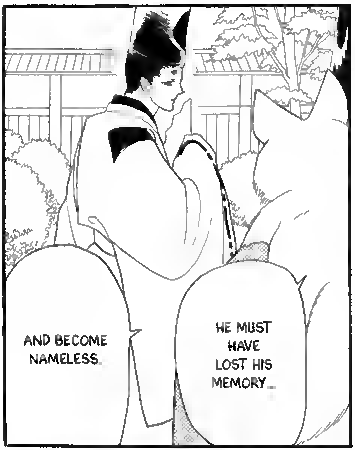
CRACK
OH
RELEASE THE LITTLE FOX, OJARU-SAMA!
UGH!

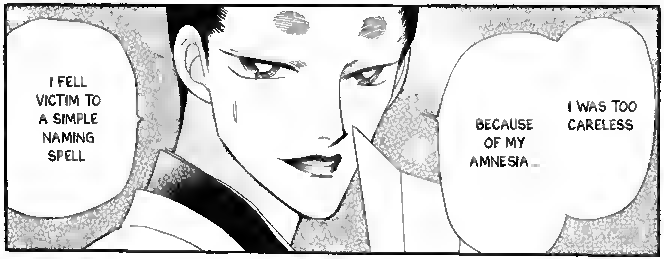

DRIP
THUD
WHAT'S GOING ON?
I COULDN'T RESIST
MY BODY WOULDN'T OBEY ME.
HOW CAN THIS BE?
IS THIS
HAPPENING
BECAUSE YOU NAMED ME?
GASP

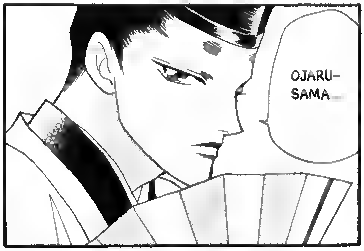

WHAT?
I CAN REALLY CONTROL HIM?
dash
suoosh
AH
huff
huff
YOU ARE A GREAT SORCERESS!
THANKS FOR HELPING ME!

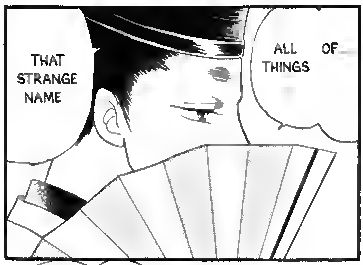
IVY SCAN
IVYSCAN KRKYOKU ORG








OJARU-SAMA

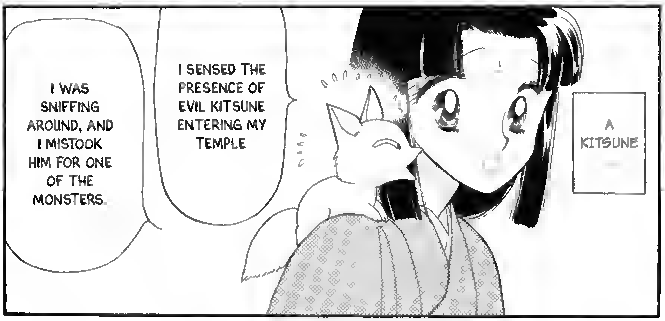

THAT STRANGE NAME
ALL OF THINGS

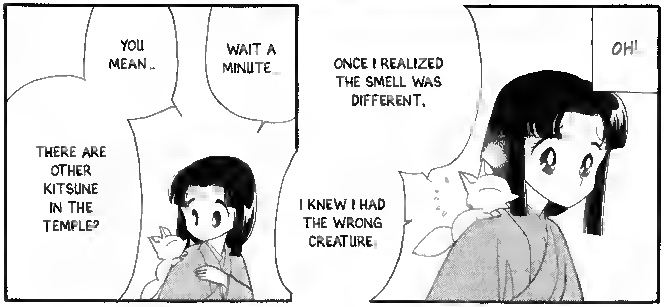
weak
OJARU-SAMA!

I'M, REALLY, REALLY SORRY!
IT WAS THE FIRST THING THAT POPPED INTO MY HEAD!
I'M SO ASHAMED, I CAN'T EVEN STAND

DID YOU REALLY LOSE YOUR MEMORY?
UM...
YOU DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE?
OH?
AREN'T YOU A KITSUNE*?
YOU...
*fox (all foxes were believed to be magical beings)

WELL,
HOW SHOULD I EX-PLAIN?
THIS BODY HAS NO RECOLLECTION.


A KITSUNE
I SENSED THE PRESENCE OF EVIL KITSUNE ENTERING MY TEMPLE
I WAS SNIFFING AROUND, AND I MISTOOK HIM FOR ONE OF THE MONSTERS.


OH!
ONCE I REALIZED THE SMELL WAS DIFFERENT,
I KNEW I HAD THE WRONG CREATURE.
WAIT A MINUTE...
YOU MEAN..
THERE ARE OTHER KITSUNE IN THE TEMPLE?

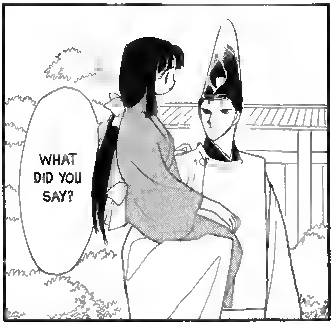
ARE THEY...
tap
AFTER LORD KIYOMARU?
YES!
OJARU-SAMA
OH, MY ANKLE HURTS
limp
OUCH!
pain

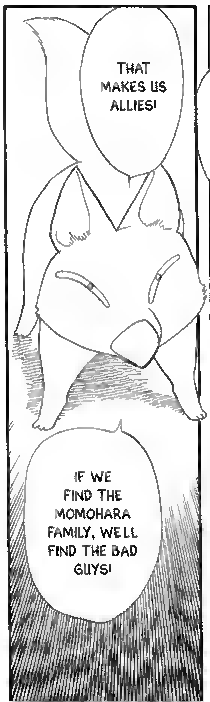
AS LONG AS YOU LEND ME YOUR POWER
I DON'T CARE WHO YOU REALLY ARE..
THERE ARE MONSTERS AFTER THE MOMOHARA FAMILY
WILL YOU COME ALONG?
..I NEED TO GO SOME-WHERE..
WELL..
THANK YOU!!
SINCE YOUR WISH IS MY COMMAND
YOU'RE SOMEONE I CAN DEPEND ON
Piggyback ride
I'M VERY GRATEFUL

HUH?
open
くん
SFX: 咥
AHH!
whump

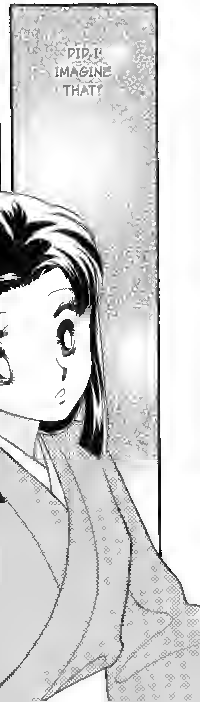
AH
YOU'VE GOTTEN HEAVIER
SFX: thump

ME? NOTHING.

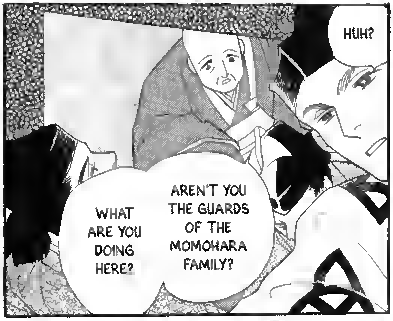

WHAT DID YOU SAY?

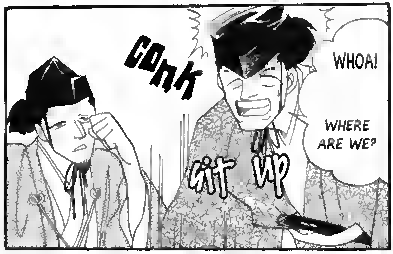

THAT MAKES US ALLIES!
IF WE FIND THE MOMOHARA FAMILY, WE'LL FIND THE BAD GUYS!

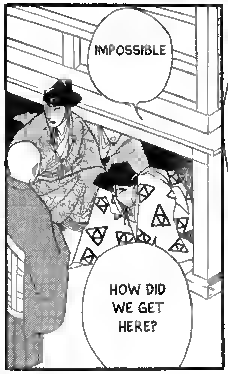
HEY!
THEY'RE MY ENEMIES, TOO

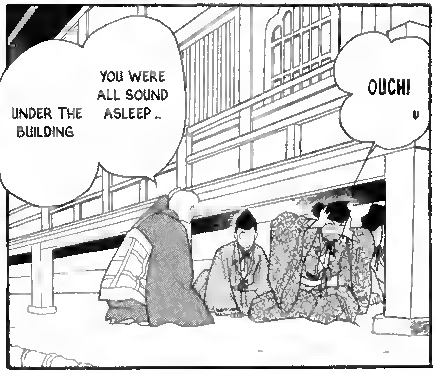

DID I IMAGINE THAT?

IVYSCAN
IVYSCAN KAKYOKU ORG



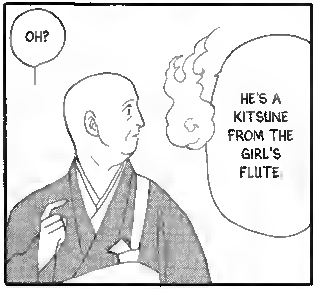


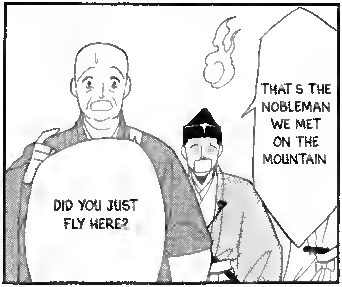




BUT WE COULDN'T REACH THE ROOMS
WE KEPT WALKING
OH,
WE WERE IN THE HALL, ESCORTING HER LADYSHIP AND THE OTHERS TO THEIR QUARTERS
DIDN'T WE.
THERE YOU ARE, GOROTA
OH,
OUR TEMPLE'S PET KITSUNE
WHAT'S THAT?
POP
POP
YOU WERE PUT UNDER A SPELL!
WHOA!

Float
HER LADYSHIP AND THE OTHERS AREN'T IN THEIR QUARTERS
THEY WEREN'T IN THE HALL, EITHER.
WA!
SUZU!

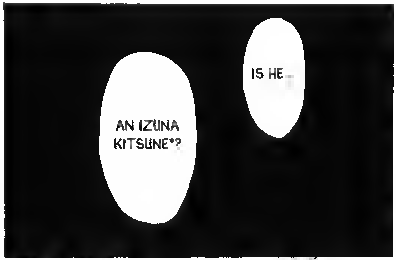

OH?
HE'S A KITSUNE FROM THE GIRL'S FLUTE

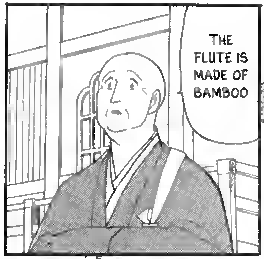

THAT'S THE NOBLEMAN WE MET ON THE MOUNTAIN
DID YOU JUST FLY HERE?

I'VE GOT IT!
I KNOW WHERE THEY ARE! THIS WAY!
THE ENEMIES WEREN'T INSIDE THE TEMPLE—
THEY WERE OUTSIDE!
SINCE THEY COULDN'T KILL LORD KIYOMARU INSIDE THE TEMPLE, THEY'RE TRICKING THEM INTO GOING OUTSIDE
WH-WHAT?!
THAT'S WHY GOROTA COULDN'T FIND THEM IN THE TEMPLE
NO WONDER!
Float

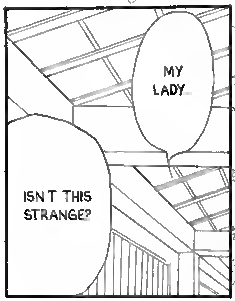
THEY'RE FLYING
HEY, WE HAVE TO GO, TOO!
gasp
WHOA!

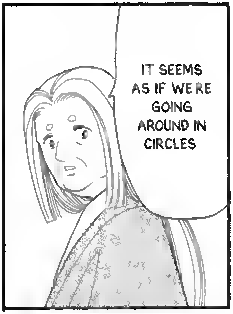
FLYING WITH A HUMAN?
A KITSUNE...
run run
WE...
Ah!
SOMEONE CAPABLE OF SUCH MAGIC
WHO COULD OJARU-SAMA BE?
REALLY ARE FLYING...





*Legendary celestial fox.





IVYSCAN
IVYSCAN KAKYOKU GAG

SEE?
YOUR QUARTERS ARE RIGHT OVER THERE
OH, YOU'RE RIGHT
WHAT WAS I THINKING?
INDEED!
THIS CORRIDOR SEEMS ENDLESS!
HA HA HA!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? WE'RE ALMOST THERE!
NO!
STOP!

ROAR

DON'T LEAVE THE GATE!

PLEASE, OJARU-SAMA!
I GUESS IT CAN'T BE HELPED.

ROAR

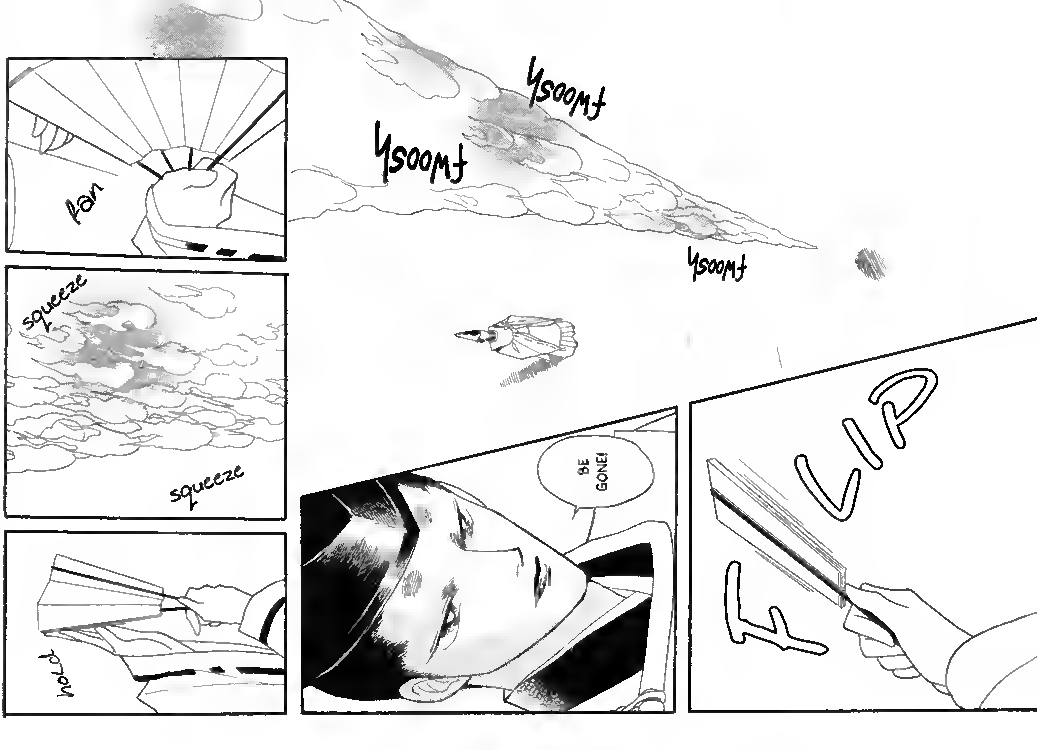
Swish
GRAB
land
RIN BYOU
TOU SHA
KAI JIN
RETSU ZAI
ZEN
turn

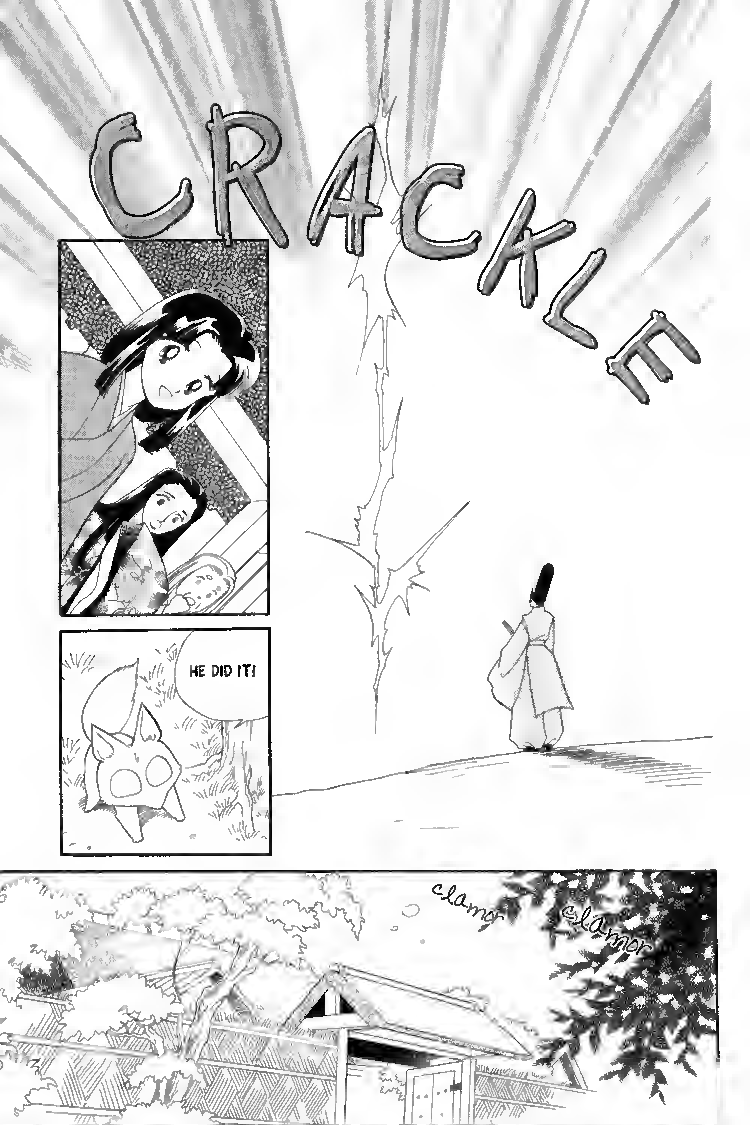
IVYSCAN
IVYSCAN.KAKYOKU.ORG

UNFOLD
OH?
BLAST

WHOOSH
AHH!
HURRY! GET INSIDE!
FAN
split
split
split

YOU CANNOT ENTER
IT'S USELESS
fan
EVEN SO...!
YOU ARE NOT ONE ENTITY, BUT A COLLECTIVE
I SEE
ram


fan
squeeze
squeeze
hold
Ysoomf
Ysoomf
Ysoomf
BE GONE!
FLIP


CRACKLE
HE DID IT!
clamor
clamor

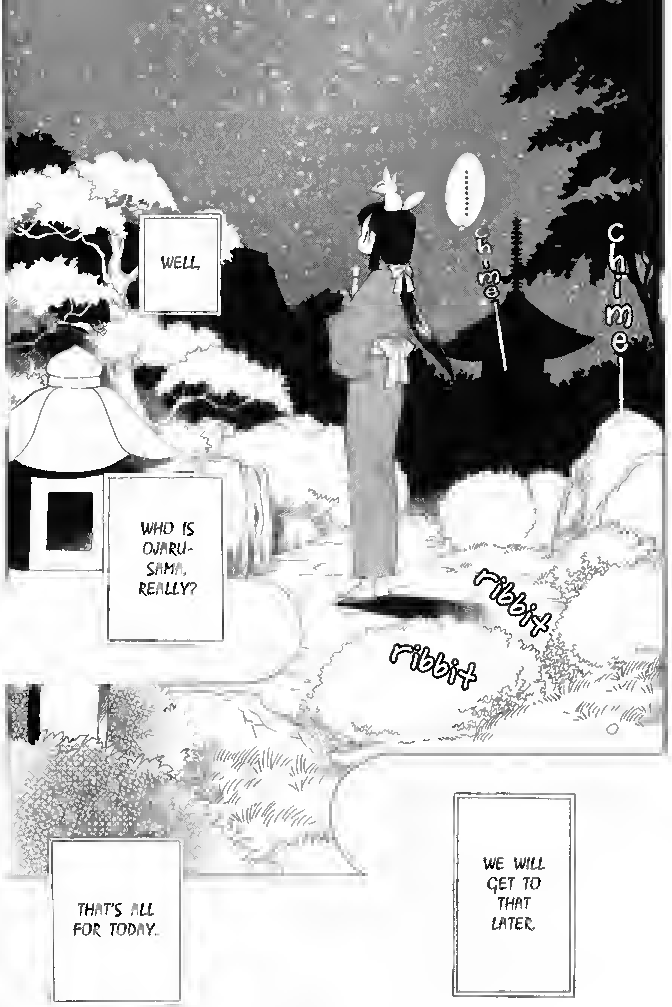
IVYSCAN
IVYSCAN.YAKYOKU.ORG

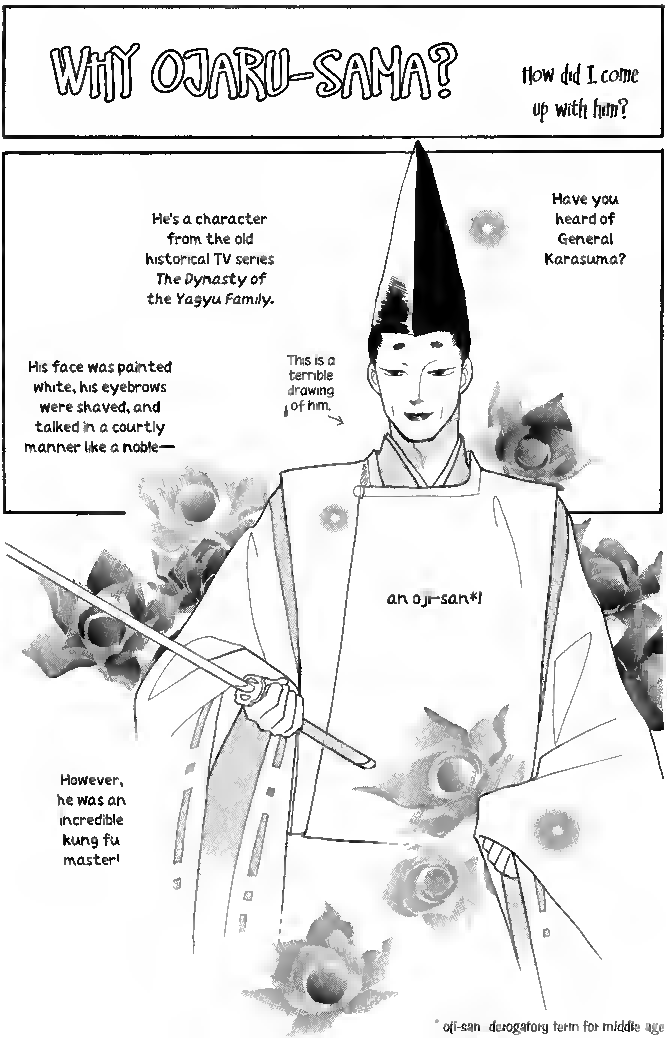
*Polite form of older brother.

FOOL
BUT AT LEAST HE'LL MAKE A GOOD PUPPET WHEN HE BECOMES THE FAMILY HEAD
LORD KATSU-SADA
I'VE BEEN LOOKING ALL OVER FOR YOU!
YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD ME YOU WERE GOING TO BE WITH YOUR BROTHER
HOW-EVER,
MY SPELL WAS DEFLECTED AGAIN
I HAVE TO RETHINK MY STRATEGY.

OH, SUZU.
WELL DONE, SUZU.
ribbit
ribbit
ribbit
I SEE YOU AND GOROTA HAVE BECOME FAST FRIENDS.
swish
swish
Y-YES
YOU SAVED US AGAIN!
THIS TOKEN OF OUR APPRECIA-TION.
PLEASE ACCEPT.
HE WAS TIRED AND WENT BACK IN THE FLUTE.
WELL
SAY, SUZU, IS OJARU-SAMA GONE FOR NOW?

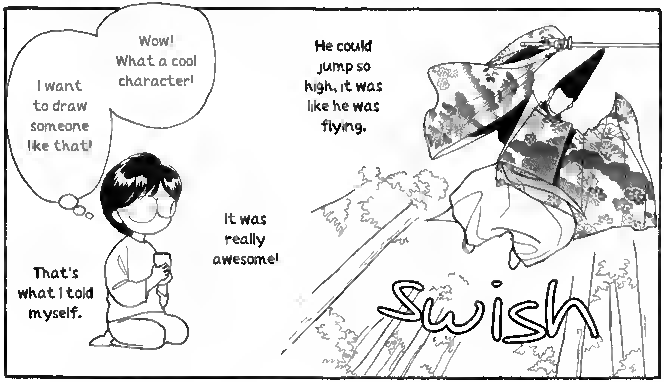
OJARU-SAMA
WERE YOU...
REALLY GOING TO KILL GOROTA?
GRIN
OF COURSE NOT
THERE WAS NO REASON TO
IT WAS AN EMPTY THREAT

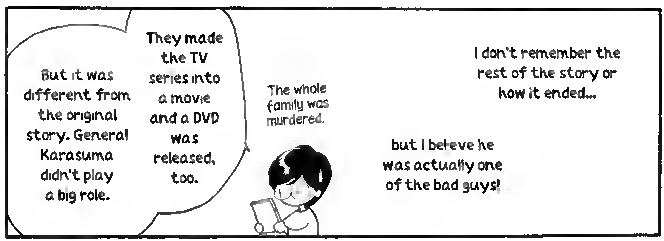

WELL,
WHO IS OJARU-SAMA, REALLY?
.....
chime
chime
ribbit
ribbit
THAT'S ALL FOR TODAY.
WE WILL GET TO THAT LATER.

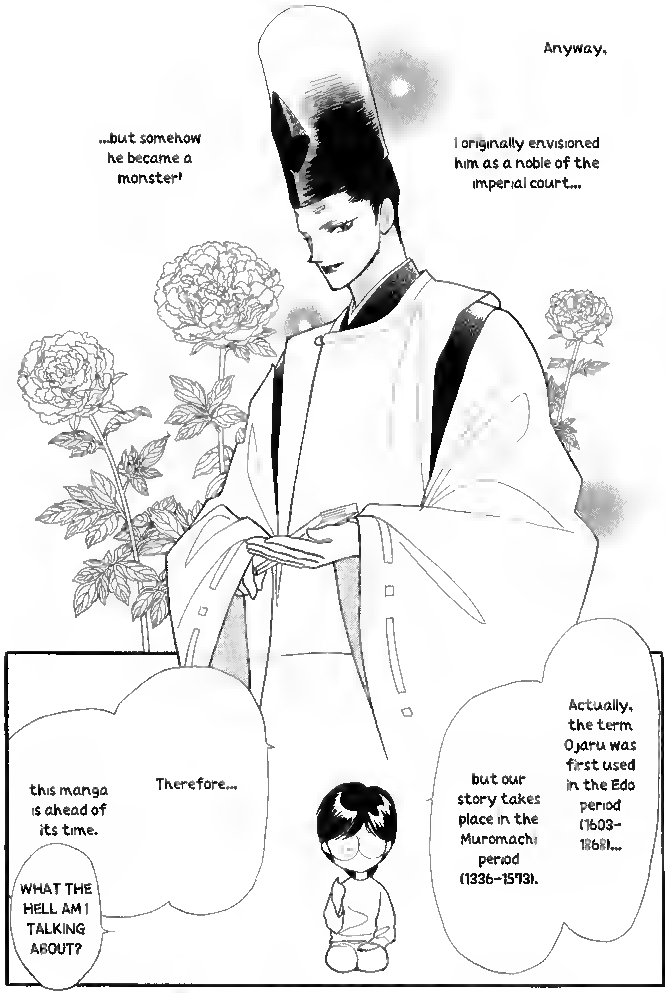

WHY OJARU-SAMA?
How did I come up with him?
He's a character from the old historical TV series The Dynasty of the Yagyu Family.
Have you heard of General Karasuma?
His face was painted white, his eyebrows were shaved, and talked in a courtly manner like a noble—
This is a terrible drawing of him.
an oji-san*!
However, he was an incredible kung fu master!

* oji-san: derogatory term for middle age man

In the TV show, he was surrounded by a bunch of ninjas, yet they couldn't defeat him!


Wow! What a cool character!
I want to draw someone like that!
That's what I told myself.
It was really awesome!
He could jump so high, it was like he was flying.
swish


They made the TV series into a movie and a DVD was released, too.
But it was different from the original story. General Karasuma didn't play a big role.
The whole family was murdered.
I don't remember the rest of the story or how it ended...
but I believe he was actually one of the bad guys!


Anyway,
I originally envisioned him as a noble of the imperial court...
...but somehow he became a monster!
Actually, the term Ojaru was first used in the Edo period (1603-1868)...
but our story takes place in the Muromachi period (1336-1573).
Therefore...
this manga is ahead of its time.
WHAT THE HELL AM I TALKING ABOUT?

Why Ojaru-sama? and How Did I Come Up with Him?/END

This work is from fans to fans. If you like Hikawa Kyouko's work, support her by buying the manga.
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IVYSCAN
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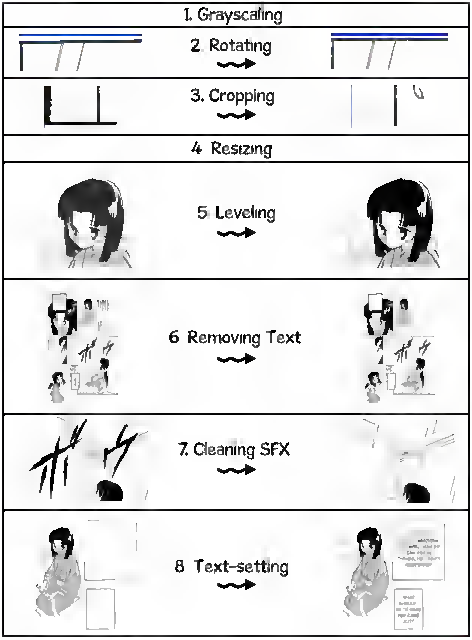

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